MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

6 NOVEMBER 1981

Saudi Arabia

At the end of British Foreign Secretary Lord Peter Carrington's visit to Saudi Arabia, Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal told a press conference, according to Riyadh radio, that their talks were useful and constructive, adding that an objective of Carrington's visit had been to determine how far the Venice declaration accords with Crown Prince Fahd's peace plan. Al-Faysal said the significance of article 7 of Fahd's proposals is the recognition of a Palestinian state and the initiation of negotiations between that state and Israel, noting that "this would not take place unless each side recognized the other." Regarding European participation in the multinational peacekeeping force for the Sinai, the Saudi foreign minister said he hoped the European peace initiative for the Middle East would remain independent of Camp David, specifying that European involvement in the Sinai force would be seen in Arab quarters as involvement in the Camp David process. Al-Faysal also said he is optimistic that Arab leaders will approve the Saudi plan at their forthcoming summit conference in Fes and noted that the Arab Gulf states had approved the eight-point plan at their last meeting in At-Ta'if. He said the Kingdom hopes for Soviet support for the plan and to "see more of the positive position of the American side" toward it. Concerning relations with Egypt, Al-Faysal denied there had been contacts between the Kingdom and Egypt.

SPA reported that Lord Carrington told journalists before his departure that the Saudi plan does not contradict the Venice declaration, describing Fahd's eight principles as positive and a sound foundation for further steps. He expressed the hope that the Arab summit conference in Fes will endorse the plan.

PLO, Israel on Sinai Force

Note to Carrington -- A report in the London paper ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT said that on 4 November Nabil ar-Ramlawi, PLO representative in the United Kingdom, presented a note at the Foreign Office calling on Lord Carrington to seriously consider the possible consequences of British participation in the Sinai peacekeeping force and UK support for the Camp David accords. Ar-Ramlawi said these actions might have a negative effect on British-Arab relations in the future.

Shamir, Begin statements -- IDF radio broadcast Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's remarks to the Knesset during a 4 November debate on the Sinai force in which he said Israel has informed all countries interested in joining the force that any declaration or statement from them that contradicts the terms of the tripartite agreement on the establishment of the force "will cancel the participation of those proclaimants in the force." Participation in the multinational force must be based solely on the Israeli-Egyptian-U.S. agreement signed within the Camp David framework, Shamir continued, and Israel will accept nothing "likely to contradict this or deviate from those documents."

Subsequently, Jerusalem radio reported Prime Minister Menahem Begin as saying in Elat that Israel will not consent to having a British unit join the force if Lord Carrington "continues to dispute the Camp David accords."

Israel

IDF radio reported Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon as stating that Israel has chosen the path of peace, even though other options are open to it and the United States has begun "to eye" plans other than the one agreed to at Camp David. Sharon described the Israeli people as believing in "constructiveness and creativity" and said that Israel's response to Fahd's peace plan is the establishment of eight new Israeli settlements.

Syria

Damascus radio reported a TISHRIN commentary that attacked Israeli Prime Minister Begin's recent remarks before the Knesset on the Syrian missiles in Lebanon. TISHRIN affirmed that Syria would not be affected by Begin's new threats any more than it was by his previous ones. The commentary went on to argue that the missiles are defensive and that Syria will not allow Israel or any other party to determine the kind or quantity of weapons given its forces.

Jordan

Husayn on Washington Talks -- Amman radio reported that at a press conference held in Washington on 4 November King Husayn reiterated that during his talks with U.S. leaders he observed a "readiness to listen, accept logic and show concern" for Middle East affairs. The king characterized American leadership as "capable of and perhaps desirous of understanding truths" and of adopting what is hoped will be positive stands. Husayn added that he believes President Reagan will be fair, noting that there is much hope that U.S. policy will change.

Purchase of Soviet Missiles -- The Jerusalem radio Arabic service cited media reports from Washington that during his visit to Washington King Husayn informed Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger of Jordan's intention to purchase SAM-6's from the Soviet Union. Iraq is to finance the deal.

Iraq-Iran Conflict

Husayn on Cease-Fire -- In a speech to the Arab Women's Federation conference carried by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn expressed his country's readiness for peace, should Iran be equally prepared, even if "only during the holy month" of Muharram. A temporary halt to fighting, he said, might give Iranians a chance to contemplate a "lasting peace" between Iranians and Arabs and Iraqis.

Downing of Iraqi Plane -- According to Tehran radio, one of three Iraqi planes attacking in the southern part of the war zone was struck by Iranian air defense unit fire and forced to crash on the Iraqi side of the Shatt al-'Arab.

Iran

Tehran radio noted that in the past few days 98 Kurdish rebels have repentantly surrendered to revolution guards in Urumiyeh, Kamyaran and Rujab.

Afghanistan

According to Kabul radio, a "mercenary" in CIA employ at the U.S. Embassy in Kabul revealed the nature of the services he performed for the U.S. Government in an Afghan television interview with domestic and foreign journalists. He described how the "espionage system" operates at the embassy and his activities within the DRA Armed Forces on behalf of the Americans.

Egypt

Resignation of Mubarak Aide -- MENA reported that the resignation of presidential assistant Sayyid Mar'i was accepted by President Husni Mubarak on 31 October at Al-'Urubah Palace.

Update on Plotters -- AFP cited "official figures" on the number of persons arrested in connection with the assassination of President Anwar as-Sadat as now totaling 718. According to MENA, a 6 November AL-AHRAM article on the investigations into the assassination and the plot to overthrow the government revealed that five groups were involved in "the terrorist organization" plan to wrest power from the government.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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PLO ENVOY CALLS 'ARAFAT'S SAUDI VISIT SUCCESSFUL

GF051211 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0920 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] Riyadh, 5 Nov (GNA) -- Rafiq an-Natshah [Abu Shakir], PLO representative to Saudi Arabia, has affirmed that Yasir 'Arafat's 3 November visit to Saudi Arabia was successful and achieved the desired goals. In a statement today, Mr an-Natshah said: The visit came within the framework of visits Mr 'Arafat makes to Saudi Arabia from time to time to discuss Arab and international issues and the Palestinian cause in particular. Mr 'Arafat acquainted Saudi officials with the outcome of his visits to Japan, the USSR and a number of other countries, as well as the impact of these visits at the Palestinian and Arab levels.

He said Mr 'Arafat acquainted King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the crown prince and Saudi officials with Israel's massive buildup in southern Lebanon and a possible attack by it since Israel is currently feeling total isolation after the recent PLO victories. He said: "Israel is thinking of breaking this isolation and of carrying out acts of sabotage like those to which we have become accustomed." He said 'Arafat also discussed the agenda of the Arab summit to be held this month in Fes.

On Fahd's recent statements regarding the affirmation of the PLO's role in solving the Middle East problem, he said: These statements are an indication of his highness's farsightedness and his comprehensive knowledge of facts and of Arab and international situations. These facts are firm and are directed to world public opinion, because there will be no peace in the region unless the Palestinian people return to their country and establish an independent state.

PLO OFFICIAL DISCUSSES ARAB SUMMIT, SAUDI PLAN

GF031823 Doha QNA in Arabic 1410 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] Amman, 3 Nov (QNA) -- Jamal as-Surani, the Palestinian representative to the Arab League, has said the PLO will submit a bill to the Arab summit conference in Fes. In a statement to the QNA correspondent in Amman, the Palestinian official said the summit conference, to be held toward the end of this month, will face major responsibilities. These are the elimination of all secondary differences among Arab states and the utilization of all Arab resources in order to stop Israeli aggression.

Mr as-Surani -- who was on his way to Baghdad from Amman last night to participate in the meetings of the Arab Lawyers Union's permanent office, as he is the doyen of Palestinian lawyers -- said the PLO sees the Palestinian question as the primary issue on the summit's agenda.

Commenting on the Saudi peace plan, the Palestinian official said the PLO's Executive Committee has preliminarily studied the plan and requested more details on it from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He indicated that the plan will be discussed by the next Arab summit conference, which is convened mainly to discuss the Palestinian question. He added that it would not be reasonable for the summit to convene without discussing a plan proposed by Saudi Arabia. He added that he cannot imagine that Saudi Arabia thinks of a unilateral plan.

In his statement, Mr as-Surani denied the PLO has any conditions on or reservations about attending the Fes conference. He also indicated that the conference is extremely important and that it will face major responsibilities and issues that require discussion at a summit level.

He then noted that the Arab foreign ministers will hold meetings on 21 and 22 November in order to discuss the new Arab League's pact and on 23 and 24 November in order to prepare a bill that will be submitted to the conference scheduled for 25-27 November.

The Palestinian official praised the stand of the Soviet Union on the Palestinian question and described Moscow's decision to convert the PLO office into an embassy as an important event for the Palestinians and their question.

Mr as-Surani denounced the idea of establishing an alternative home for the Palestinians and said that the Palestinians will not accept a replacement for their home in Palestine. He then stressed that the alternative of a Palestinian home outside Palestine is aimed at creating problems between the Palestinians and others.

He also affirmed that Israel is behind the continuation of the Lebanese problem and that it wants to convert every other Arab country into another Lebanon by promoting differences and disagreements.

BEIRUT PAPER ON 'ARAFAT TALKS WITH SOVIETS

LD061018 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0820 GMT 6 Nov 81

[Text] Beirut, 6 Nov (KUNA) -- A Lebanese leftist paper said today that during his recent visit to Riyadh, the chairman of the PLO, Yasir 'Arafat, suggested that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia establish relations with the Soviet Union.

In a dispatch from London, AS-SAFIR quoted usually reliable diplomatic sources as saying that 'Arafat discussed this question "in advance" with the leaders of the Kremlin during his visit to Moscow last month.

Saudi Arabia has no relations whatsoever with the Soviet Union or any other communist state.

The paper said that 'Arafat also discussed the Saudi Middle East peace plan with the Soviet leaders. But the paper made no reference to the Soviet Union's views on this plan.

At the beginning of the year, the Soviet Union proposed convening an international conference to include all the parties concerned in the Arab-Israeli conflict with a view to reaching a comprehensive solution to the crisis.

The Saudi plan, presented by Crown Prince and Deputy Premier Prince Fahd, calls for the establishment of a Palestinian state after the total withdrawal of Israel from the occupied Arab territories and recognizing the right of all the states of the region to live in peace.

'ARAFAT ENDS TOUR OF MAGHREB COUNTRIES 5 NOV

NC060821 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 6 Nov 81

[Excerpt] Last night, Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] arrived in Damascus following his tour of Saudi Arabia, Tunisia and Algeria.

ARAB LEAGUE'S KLIBI ON SINAI, FES PROSPECTS

PM051147 Paris LE MONDE in French 3 Nov 81 p 4

["F.B." dispatch: "Mr Klibi Criticizes European Countries' Intention To Take Part in Sinai Peacekeeping Force"]

[Text] Tunis -- Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi, who received us on his return from a visit to Rome and before going to Baghdad to take part in the third Arab culture ministers' conference, criticized the intention of the European countries, and more especially France, to take part in the Sinai peacekeeping force.

"The Arab countries will see this gesture as moral support for the Camp David agreements even if the Europeans deny it," he told us. "The Arabs cannot understand why the Europeans, who condemned those agreements, are giving the impression of changing their minds and supporting them when they are moribund. For our part, we regret that the store of confidence which France has built up over the past few months should be undermined by this initiative. We think that it had a different role to play with the Europeans in encouraging the establishment of a lasting peace by giving the Palestinians a homeland."

Speaking about the Arab summit in Fes, Mr Klibi expressed the view that it would not be postponed to enable Egypt to take part because, he said, it would probably then be postponed "indefinitely." He stressed that the timetable for the conference has been decided: 22 and 23 November -- foreign ministers' meeting; 24 November -- welcoming the heads of state; 25 November -- opening the summit and discussing the Lebanese problem; 26 and 27 November -- discussing other matters; 28 November -- ending.

The secretary general stressed that 15 countries have already confirmed their participation -- which, in his view, is extremely important. In addition, diplomatic circles indicate that the steadfastness front members have had consultations and decided to go to Fes, but have not yet announced their stance.

As regards the Fahd plan for a Near East settlement, Mr Klibi stated that no Arab country has officially rejected it and that the negative reactions which may have been recorded were expressed in the press or on an individual level.

"If, as all the signs show," he told us, "this plan is to be on the agenda at the Fes summit, there will be extensive discussion -- which is not necessarily synonymous with definitive disagreement -- and I am convinced that it will eventually produce a unified Arab position."

Diplomatic circles indicate that Syrian President al-Asad informed the United States back in August that he was not hostile to the Fahd plan. It would seem that it is more for circumstantial, tactical reasons that reservations were expressed in Damascus and other steadfastness front countries.

For his part, Mr Klibi protested against the interpretation which states that the Fahd plan follows the Camp David agreements: "That is a nonsense," he stated. "Camp David," he added, "was a Machiavellian attempt to separate Egypt from the Arab family and to try to legalize Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Jerusalem." According to him, the Fahd plan on the other hand has the triple advantage of showing that the Arab position can accept UN legality by accepting the resolutions passed by the United Nations, propose a lasting solution acceptable to all Arab countries and finally address international opinion.

ISLAMIC CONFERENCE CHIEF ON FAHD PLAN, AWACS

PM051155 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 4 Nov 81 p 2

[ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT Bureau report: "All Islamic States Will Declare Support for Saudi Initiative"]

[Text] Jiddah -- Islamic Conference Organization Secretary General Habib Chatti announced yesterday that he believes that all the Islamic states which are members of the organization will declare their support for Saudi Crown Prince and First Deputy Prime Minister Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz's initiative for the establishment of just peace in the Middle East. Chatti said that this plan has a serious and legitimate character, is based on the resolutions adopted at Arab and Islamic conferences, is compatible with international law and has come at an appropriate time, when it can be implemented.

Chatti added that the circumstances caused by Camp David have frozen the Palestinian issue and rendered it incapable of moving in any direction. The Saudi plan has now emerged to show that the Camp David plan was not the correct way to peace but a waste of time for the world, the area and peace, and that the right way is the way charted in the world, the area and peace, and that the right way is the way charted in this play.

Commenting on the approval of the AWACS deal for Saudi Arabia, Chatti said that it was an Arab-Israeli battle waged in the United States, which fully and perpetually supports Israel -- a fact to which we have become inured. This is the first time that Arab policy has triumphed over Israel in Israel's favorite arena -- the United States, which has habitually and perpetually complied with Israel's dictates and wants. This is the first time we have witnessed a battle of this kind terminating in an Arab victory. Chatti added: This will open avenues, doors and ways for us in the United States to confront Israel and win other battles against it.

STEADFASTNESS FRONT MINISTERS TO MEET IN ADEN

NC300732 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 30 Oct 81

[Text] Damascus -- PLO's official spokesman Brother 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar has stated that the foreign ministers of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front will meet in Aden in the next few days. He said that the ministers will evaluate the international and Arab situations in the wake of the new developments particularly following the absence of As-Sadat from the theater of events in the area.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO USSR -- Brother Muhammad ash-Sha'ir was granted yesterday all the diplomatic powers as Palestinian ambassador to the Soviet Union, with the same status as those in the foreign embassies on Soviet territory. During a 2-hour meeting at the Soviet Foreign Ministry, Brother ash-Sha'ir was informed about the new position, the high place now occupied by the [PLO] representative's office and about its upgrading to embassy level following the recent meeting between Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and the Soviet leadership. [Text] [(Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1615 GMT 31 Oct 81 JN]

ANA-JANA AGREEMENT -- Aden, 5 Nov (ANA) -- An agreement for a joint program of action between ADEN NEWS AGENCY (ANA) and the Libyan JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY (JANA) was signed today at ANA's headquarters. It was signed by Najib Muhammad Ibrahim, director of ANA, and by 'Abd as-Salam 'Ali Ashur, member of the People's Committee of the Libyan Brotherhood Bureau in Aden. The agreement provides for the exchange of news about political events and economic and social achievements in the two fraternal countries and the distribution of such news to official information media in the two countries. It also provides for constant coordination between the two agencies on the information stance to be adopted vis a vis the crucial issues facing the Arab nation and their place in world politics as well as regional issues, so as to refute successfully the fabrications and concoctions of the enemies of the Arab nation and expose hostile movements by the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary forces. [Text] [Aden ANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 5 Nov 81 LD]

GULF AFFAIRS

GULF SUMMIT TO DISCUSS OMANI-PDRY DISPUTE

GF051600 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1430 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] Ad-Dammam, 5 Nov (GNA) -- Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah has affirmed that the second Gulf summit conference, which will be held in Riyadh, will discuss the dispute between the Sultanate of Oman and the PDRY. In a statement today the Saudi newspaper AL-YAWM, the Bahraini minister termed the disagreement between the two countries painful. He added: We are against any dispute or disagreement between two Arab countries, particularly in our region here in the Gulf and the Arabian Peninsula.

He also said Bahrain is anxious to eliminate the disagreement between the two countries and that the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] is now in a position to enable it to make joint moves to resolve the dispute. He also noted that GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah is commissioned with the task of contacting the parties concerned in both countries. The GCC summit will discuss the results of these contacts, he added.

The Bahraini minister expressed hope that the GCC states will jointly be able to eliminate this unnecessary dispute benefitting only foreign states and not Muscat or Aden.

The Bahraini foreign minister stressed that during its meetings in Riyadh next week, the GCC will discuss in detail the agreement signed in Aden by Libya, the PDRY and Ethiopia.

GCC HEAD DENIES ATTEMPTS TO RECONCILE EGYPT

GF031805 Ad-Dammam AL-YAWM in Arabic 3 Nov 81 p 1

[Excerpt] In a phone call to AL-YAWM, 'Abdallah Bisharah, the secretary general of the Gulf Cooperation Council, has denied any knowledge that Arab reconciliation with Egypt will be discussed during the meetings of the upcoming Gulf summit conference, which will be held in Riyadh next week.

BAHRAIN

AMIR RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM PDRY LEADER

GF060806 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0729 GMT 6 Nov 81

[Text] Manama, 6 Nov (GNA) -- Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the amir of Bahrain, has received a verbal message on bilateral relations from 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the Presidium of the PDRY Supreme People's Council. The message was conveyed by PDRY Ambassador to Kuwait 'Ali 'Aydarus Yahya when Shaykh 'Isa received him in Manama today.

KUWAIT

STANCE ON SAUDI PLAN DEPENDS ON SUMMIT DECISION

LD041026 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0715 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] Kuwait, 4 Nov (KUNA) -- Kuwait stated that its stance vis-a-vis the Saudi initiative to settle the Middle East crisis will not be outside what is approved by leaders of the Arab countries at the summit conference to be held in Fes, Morocco, at the end of this month.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, in reply to a parliamentary question about Kuwait's official stance vis-a-vis the initiative, said that the government's "final" stance regarding the plan submitted by Prince Fahd, Saudi crown prince and deputy prime minister, "will not be outside the unanimous will of the Arab nation, which we hope will crystalize in a unified stance in the next Arab summit conference."

He added that the six members of the Gulf Cooperation Council agreed at their foreign ministers conference held in Riyadh in the summer, "that the Gulf Cooperation Council will submit this topic for debate at the next Arab summit conference in Fes, and will adopt a united stance in view (?of its being) an issue of a comprehensive pan-Arab nature which goes beyond the Gulf region."

PDRY LEADER MAKES BRIEF VISIT TO KUWAIT

LD011022 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1000 GMT 1 Nov 81

[Text] 'Ali Nasir Muhammed, chairman of the PDRY's Presidium of the Supreme People's Council and chairman of the Council of Ministers, arrived in Kuwait at 0845 GMT today on a 2-day visit. He was welcomed at the airport by the amir of Kuwait, the heir apparent and prime minister, and senior state officials. The PDRY chairman is accompanied by a delegation of ministers and advisers, as well as an information delegation.

PDRY Leader Meets With Amir

LD011534 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1425 GMT 1 Nov 81

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 1 Nov (KUNA) -- The PDRY's leader, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, met here today with the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah. According to an official source, they discussed the current Arab situation. The source said that "the talks basically concentrated on developments of the current Arab situation and various aspects of relations, as well as issues of mutual interest." The source added that the talks took place in a cordial atmosphere characterized by the spirit of fraternity and understanding.

PDRY Leader Comments

LD020952 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0807 GMT 2 Nov 81

[Text] Kuwait, 2 Nov (KUNA) -- Before leaving, Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad said that he and the amir of Kuwait "have exchanged views on a number of vital issues of interest to the Arab peoples in general and our area in particular." He said that the views of both sides were "identical" on a number of the issues discussed. He also said that during the talks with the amir, particular importance was attached to the development of bilateral relations and to "the continuation of consultations and exchanges of views on all new developments, both in the Arab and international spheres."

Leader Departs After 1 Day

LD020800 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0700 GMT 2 Nov 81

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 2 November (KUNA) -- PDRY Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad left Kuwait today at the end of a brief visit lasting 1 day. The PDRY chairman said on arrival in Kuwait that his country was interested in the continuation of efforts to establish stability and security in the Gulf area. This was taken to mean that he was trying to allay the Arab Gulf countries' fears about the tripartite treaty concluded last August between Libya, Ethiopia and the PDRY. He also said that an Arab stand must be adopted on the strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel.

OMAN

SULTAN QABUS ADDRESSES CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY

EA031638 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Excerpts] His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id [Al Bu Sa'id] delivered an important speech at the opening session of the State Consultative Assembly, which began its business today. The assembly is the fulfillment of a promise by his majesty the sultan and is a living embodiment of the wise leadership aimed at giving citizens the widest possible involvement in the government's efforts for united national work, and to combine efforts and energies for the attainment of the great goals and hopes which we are keen to achieve in various fields of development. It is also a realization of the ideal society, based on our values and principles and the reality of our homeland, following the brilliant achievements in recent years, during which it has been possible -- through the cohesiveness existing between the leader and the people -- to achieve miraculous deeds and to build a civilized society moving rapidly along the road of culture and prosperity.

Here is a recording of the speech by His Majesty Sultan Qabus at the opening session of the State Consultative Assembly.

[Begin recording] Members of the Consultative Assembly: As we assign to your assembly the task of expressing views and giving advice on the general economic and social policies of the country, we hope that the assembly will be a framework for the joint effort of the two sectors: governmental and national.

It will study the objectives and dimensions of our development plans and scheduled projects, as well as the obstacles in the way of the implementation of such plans and the proper solutions for them. That is why we have been eager to bring together in this assembly the governmental and national sectors, with a majority for the national sector in the number of members who represent various interests.

Today, after 11 years of continuing struggle during which our people have demonstrated high morale in cooperation and working with determination, boldness and courage, we are all overwhelmed by feelings of pride and honor in all that we have achieved together for our beloved country — pride in achievements in various fields in spite of the challenges and dangers which faced us.

Members of the Consultative Assembly: Your assembly is on the point of assuming its responsibilities in various fields of development, and we hope you will carry the trust and discharge your duty to be always vigilant for the (?real) interests of the citizens [word indistinct] and to keep them before you [word indistinct]. You should be realistic and objective in dealing with affairs.

You should dedicate yourselves to serving the homeland and the citizens in a manner commensurate with the noble task entrusted to your assembly and the lofty goals of our march along the road of progress and construction.

May God give us all his assistance and succour. God's peace, mercy and blessings be upon you all. [end recording]

MINISTER RECEIVES PRC YOUTH DELEGATION 1 NOV

GF021110 Doha QNA in Arabic 2000 GMT 1 Nov 81

[Text] 'Abd al-'Aziz ar-Rawwas, Omani information and youth affairs minister, today met with a PRC youth delegation currently visiting Oman. The delegation is led by Liu Huan, deputy chairman of the PRC youth federation. During the meeting, youth activities in the Sultanate of Oman were reviewed and [words indistinct].

SAUDI ARABIA

SPA REVIEWS SAUDI PRESS ON FAHD PLAN, AWACS

LD051324 Riyadh SPA in English 1200 GMT 5 Nov 81

[From the press review]

[Text] Riyadh, 5 Nov (SPA) -- Deploration [as received] of Zionist and communist campaigns against the growing world-wide acceptance of the Kingdom's Middle East peace plan and the prominent change in the American policy relating to the Mideast, since the U.S. Senate decision to approve the sale of the advanced radar planes to Saudi Arabia, were the two major topics that received editorial attention in today's national newspapers.

Hailing the world-wide attention given to Crown Prince Fahd's peace plan, AL-MADINAH newspaper denounced the Zionist opposition to the plan. "The Zionist enemy's philosophy is based on usurption, occupation and terrorism. As such it will be very difficult for it to accept the peace initiative of the Kingdom which is based on fair justice for the sake of durable peace in the area," the paper added.

AL-MADINAH felt another quarter which is not happy about the growing international recognition of Price Fahd's plan was obviously the communist group. "The communist imperialist powers are not happy with the Kingdom's strong economic international position. As such, the communist quarters along with their agents are publicising the same arguments as put forward by the Zionist camp. This clearly points to the fact that the Zionist and communists are aligned together to deny the Arabs their legitimate durable peace in the region," the paper added.

The paper urged the U.S. administration led by President Reagan to announce its backing for Prince Fahd's plan as the only suitable alternative for establishing peace in the area, as the U.S. is the only country which exercises some influence on the Zionist entity. The paper felt U.S. backing will help in pushing forward the peace efforts underway in the region.

Commenting on the impact of AWACS sale to the Kingdom, AL-JAZIRAH newspaper said, "the clearance of the package in the U.S. Senate has pointed to a significant emerging change in the opinion of legislative authority and U.S. Government toward the Arab issue and the real American interests in the region.

The paper hoped the U.S. administration's decision to sell AWACS will be followed by more important and effective initiatives and bold American decisions to solve the Palestinian issue.

The paper said, "The AWACS decision has created a new psychological atmosphere in the U.S. public opinion to listen to the Arab viewpoints. It will be the most opportune time for President Reagan to initiate a similar stand on the Mideast issue, which will open new doors of meaningful cooperation between the whole Arab nation and U.S.

AL-RIYAD newspaper said Israel has at last realised [that] the change of the solving the Mideast issue in its favour through the unilateral Camp David accord has been lost.

"The Kingdom's peace plan has burnt all the Israeli cards that could have been used by the Zionist entity to damage the relations of Arabs with the U.S. and the Arabs' legitimate rights. The Kingdom has presented the plan to defeat the aims of the Zionists and all previous liquidating plans that would have served the interests of Israel at the cost of Arab rights and dignity.

UAE

OIL MINISTER RECEIVES COSTA RICAN MINISTERS

GF051351 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1315 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 5 Nov (ENA) -- Dr Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, the minister of petroleum and natural resources, met this morning Costa Rican Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus and Costa Rican Energy Minister Fernando Altmann. Means to develop bilateral cooperation in energy matters were discussed.

Talks Begin 5 Nov

GF051114 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Excerpts] A meeting was held at the Foreign Ministry this morning between the UAE delegation led by Foreign Minister Rashid 'Abdallah and the Costa Rican delegation led by Costa Rican Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus. The meeting was attended by a number of officials from both sides.

During the meeting views were exchanged on bilateral relations and on current developments in the Middle East and Central America. The Costa Rican foreign minister affirmed his country's stand on the Palestinian issue, which parallels the UN resolutions providing for the right of the Palestinians to return to their homeland and to establish an independent state on their land. He also expressed support for the plan proposed by Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi crown prince and deputy prime minister, to establish peace in the Middle East. The Costa Rican side explained the political and economic problems facing their country and the interest of Central American countries and Costa Rica in cooperating and coordinating with the Gulf countries on a number of issues. The delegation also expressed Costa Rica's gratitude for Arab support at the United Nations for the UN proposal to establish a university in Costa Rica.

Rashid 'Abdallah expressed appreciation to Costa Rica for its support of the Palestinian issue in UN forums. He called on Central American countries for more support for the Palestinian issue. He explained that this will contribute to expanding Arab relations with Latin American countries. He also asserted the UAE's interest in furthering bilateral relations for the benefit of both sides.

Ministers Leave for Riyadh

GF060655 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0555 GMT 6 Nov 81

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 5 Nov (ENA) -- Costa Rican Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus and Costa Rican Energy Minister Fernando Altmann left Abu Dhabi for Riyadh tonight at the conclusion of their official 2-day visit to the UAE.

PDRY

GNA REPORTS LEADER TO VISIT BAHRAIN, QATAR, UAE

GF060804 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0731 GMT 6 Nov 81

[Text] Manama, 6 Nov (GNA) -- The GULF NEWS AGENCY has learned that 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council and chairman of the Council of Ministers, will visit several Gulf countries in the next days. 'Ali Nasir Muhammad will begin his tour with a visit to Bahrain on 13 November 1981. He will also visit Qatar and the UAE. 'Ali Nasir Muhammad is currently visiting East Berlin.

LEADER VISITS HUNGARY, AGREEMENT SIGNED

For Hungarian media reportage of PDRY Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's 2-5 November visit to Budapest, see the Hungary section of the 3-5 November Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT.

PFLO RADIO URGES OVERTHROW OF OMAN'S QABUS

EA032114 Aden Voice of PFLO in Arabic 1545 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] Brothers, some days ago the imperialist U.S. circles announced the holding of joint military exercises [words indistinct]. These are the puppet regimes of Muscat, Somalia, Sudan and Egypt.

The announcement of these exercises which the United States intends to hold on the territory of these countries shows the extent of the subservience of these regimes to the United States. The United States makes preparations while the above-mentioned regimes have to agree and comply. Our evidence for this is the vacillation in the agent circles of the Muscat regime concerning participation or nonparticipation in the exercises. Finally, it was agreed that token forces from the sultan's forces should take part in these exercises which would be conducted on Omani beaches.

This vacillation palpably shows that the agent regime of Muscat was not aware of the [word indistinct] exercises until details were released by the U.S. masters, who are now controlling Omani territory as if it were U.S. territory, holding their exercises on its soil [word indistinct] and in accordance with their aggressive programs.

The puppet Muscat regime could do nothing but agree to those programs and their implementation. This measure is but one of the principal dimensions of the agreement concluded between the two sides, the sultan's and the Americans. The agreement was connected with military facilities and bases and was signed on 4 July last year.

We shall not hide it from you, our people, that Qabus' official delegation which attended the funeral of the traitor Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat, during its presence in Cairo, met the head of the Zionist entity, Menahem Begin. You will remember that the agent regime sent a high-level delegation to attend the burial of As-Sadat, including a number of ministers and close associates of Qabus of high standing in the regime without going so far as to call them the engineers of the policies of the puppet regime of Muscat. [sentence as heard] The regime tried to hide this, but facts can never be concealed however hard the agents try.

The joint military exercises on Omani territory give the lie to the propaganda of the puppet regime in Muscat that the Sultanate's policies are in accord with the policies of the rest of the Gulf states, members of the Gulf Cooperation Council. These states explained their (?opposition) to a foreign military presence in the region. They also boycotted the funeral of the traitor As-Sadat, yet the puppet Muscat regime, in addition to attending As-Sadat's funeral, also welcomed imperialist U.S. plans throughout the whole Arab region.

The regime undertakes to facilitate matters for the Americans so that they may make gains in the region close to the oilfields.

Qabus' regime perpetrated indescribable crimes against our people and homeland. For this reason the overthrowing of the regime is a pressing matter and all Omani nationalists must unite their ranks to achieve this task until our people in all their groups and classes are able to live in freedom and peace unenslaved by the Americans, the British or others who dominate the destiny of our country and the masses of our Omani people.

AMBASSADOR TO U.S. GHURBAL INTERVIEWED

NC041415 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 2-8 Nov 81 pp 43-52

[By Lydia Georgi]

[Text] The Egyptian ambassador in Washington, Ashraf Ghurbal, stated last week that contacts between Cairo and Riyadh "have never stopped" and that the Saudis' and other Arabs' misunderstanding of Egypt's intentions in the Camp David process "is now beginning to clear up."

In a long-distance telephone interview with MONDAY MORNING, the Egyptian ambassador said that Saudi Arabia's reported support of Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, which was officially announced by the West German Government last week, "shows that there is, as there has always been, tremendous grounds for friendship and understanding between Saudi Arabia and Egypt...I think that whatever misunderstanding there has been on the part of the Saudis and other Arab brothers regarding what Egypt did and what Egypt's intentions are is now beginning to clear up, and I look forward to that relationship being strengthened continuously."

The announcement of Saudi support for Mubarak was made by a Bonn government spokesman last Wednesday, after talks between Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and Crown Prince Fahd. The spokesman said the West German and Saudi leaders "agreed that the new Egyptian president deserved trust. Both heads of government called for support for the political line of the Egyptian president."

The Bonn announcement drew a swift response from Saudi Information Minister 'Abduh Yamani, who said that the news agency reports from Bonn on this subject were "inaccurate." Making no reference to Mubarak, Yamani said that Saudi Arabia's position on the Camp David treaties had not changed and that Riyadh continued to reject any Middle Eastern settlement which did not take into account the rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to establish an independent state, and any solution which did not involve the withdrawal of the Israelis from all occupied Arab land, including East Jerusalem.

Saudi Arabia's tendency to support Mubarak, however, was underscored by the government-controlled Saudi press, which last week called on the Arabs not to pressure the new Egyptian president into abrogating the Camp David agreements at this time, stating that Mubarak must be given a one-year period of grace to set the Egyptian house in order.

Egyptian Ambassador Ghurbal, welcoming Prince Fahd's reported support of Mubarak, said that his embassy in Washington had been "having continuous contacts and friendship with our Saudi brothers and others," noting that Egypt and Saudi Arabia were united "in the larger strategic picture which encompasses us and other reasonable members of the larger Arab family."

It was natural for members of a family to disagree at times, he said, but it was equally natural for them "to get together, to understand better what is involved and to have bridges developed between them that are as strong as ever before. I look forward to that day."

Asked if the restoration of Egyptian-Saudi diplomatic relations was imminent, Ghurbal said: "Let us take things gradually. Let us not precipitate any action unduly. There has been a statement in the right direction. We welcome that, and we look forward to a continuous clearing of the horizon.... There is a larger bond that ties Saudi Arabia and Egypt, and we look forward to strengthening it continuously."

About Egypt's future relations with other Arab capitals, the ambassador said his government was sparing no effort to defend the rights of every Arab people, and that "95 percent" of his time in Washington was devoted to work for the promotion of Palestinian self-determination. When Iraq approached Egypt for arms, Egypt "did not hesitate" to provide arms, he recalled, and it would "not fail in its duty" to any other Arab country.

"We have never failed to extend our friendship, but one hand is not enough for a handshake," Ghurbal said. "We will continue...to keep an open door for all our Arab brothers to look into the situation again, to return to the situation that existed.... And if they decide that the time has come for them to extend their hand to us, well, our hand is there to grasp it."

The Egyptian ambassador ruled out the possibility of the current tension between Libya and the Egyptian-Sudanese alliance developing into a war.

"I don't think it will lead to that," he said. "We hope that (Libyan Leader Mu'ammar) al-Qadhdhafi will see the light and simmer down in his policy and his actions. We are continuously extending our hand to all our Arab brothers in the Arab world, neighbors or otherwise, to have friendly relations across borders and beyond. But at the same time, if anyone tampers with our security, our territorial integrity or our sovereignty, we will not let it go. We will have to repulse it with all the power that we have."

Ghurbal indicated that although Cairo was open to the restoration of Egyptian-Arab friendship, it would turn down an invitation to the Arab summit conference in Fes this month should such an invitation be extended. He explained that Egyptian attendance in these circumstances may cast doubt on Cairo's commitment to the Camp David treaties.

At this stage, he said, Egypt "is not anxious to give any appearance that can be interpreted to mean anything but that we are continuing along our road -- to complete the withdrawal of Israeli troops from our territories and to put our Palestinian brothers on the track to full autonomy leading to self-determination."

Asked whether the chances of Egypt's return to Arab ranks would increase after the April, 1982 Israeli withdrawal from Sinai, the ambassador said the withdrawal would not change Egyptian policies and "our course after April '82 will be the same as it was before April '82."

Dismissing the possibility that Israel might use the assassination of President Anwar as-Sadat as a pretext to delay its withdrawal from Sinai, Ghurbal expressed total confidence that the withdrawal would go ahead on schedule because "they (the Israelis) have indicated that they stand by their commitments exactly as we stand by ours."

Israeli Chief of Staff Refa'el Eytan's recent remark that the death of As-Sadat had knocked down the central pillar of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty and might bring the ceiling down did not represent "the consensus of views in Israel," Ghurbal said.

He added that he did not believe that the Israelis were "geared" to resume hostilities in south Lebanon in order to test post As-Sadat Egypt's commitment to the Camp David treaties. Judging by the Israelis' statements, the Jewish state would continue to respect the cease-fire in south Lebanon, he said, refusing to consider any other possibility on the grounds that "pessimism is always destructive."

But Ghorbal challenged two statements made last week by Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir.

About Shamir's contention that the talks on Palestinian "autonomy" were not aimed at the establishment of a Palestinian homeland "because the Palestinians already have a homeland in Jordan," Ghorbal said: "The name of the game in the Camp David agreements is to put the Palestinians on the road to self-determination in the West Bank and Gaza.... And the transition period of three to five years of full autonomy is to lead the Palestinians to the self-determination that we are talking about.... I believe Foreign Minister Shamir ought to see the realities of the day and thus help bring about that self-determination, which will bring peace, stability and prosperity to the area."

By "self-determination," he said, he meant that "the Palestinians would have their own state in the West Bank and Gaza, federated with Jordan or confederated, as they wish it to be."

About Shamir's rejection of talks with the Palestine Liberation Organization even if the PLO recognized Israel, Ghurbal said this was a "totally unrealistic" statement and did not "even fit the philosophy of Israel," which for 30 years had been calling for direct talks with its Arab opponents. "I return to Israel its own prescription and tell her: 'Please fill it,'" he said.

Noting that Mubarak, like As-Sadat, was pressing for the initiation of a dialogue between the U.S. and the PLO, Ghurbal said: "I feel that there is ample opportunity -- much more than ever before -- for us to move into an atmosphere in which that dialogue will take place.

Asked whether he believed the assassination of As-Sadat would prompt Washington to exert more pressure towards Israeli concessions for a comprehensive peace, Ghurbal said: "Yes, I believe so.... I belive the voice around the world is "let us lose no more time; let us step on the gas, so to speak, and reach the conclusions that we must reach in order to bring self-determination to the Palestinians, security to all the countries in the area and prosperity to all the people there."

He said the Palestinian-Israeli cease-fire in south Lebanon and the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai provided proof that peace in the Middle East could be achieved without the participation of the Soviet Union.

Describing the European Economic Community's intention to participate in the multi-national peace-keeping force in Sinai after the Israeli withdrawal as "a victor for the progress towards peace," Ghurbal said all Arabs should "rejoice" over this development, instead of opposing it as some Arab states had done. Opposing EEC participation in the force, he said, was tantamount to opposing Israeli withdrawal from Arab territory, "and I do not think any Arab is opposed to Israel evacuating an Arab land."

He added that EEC participation in the force would implement one of the eight points listed in Saudi Crown Prince Fahd's peace proposal -- namely, Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab land. The Europeans, he said, could go ahead with their Sinai plans and still have "room to pursue their initiative in order to achieve a comprehensive settlement."

In a comment on last week's U.S. Senate vote in favor of the AWACS sale to Saudi Arabia, Ghurbal noted that As-Sadat, Mubarak and the Egyptian Embassy in Washington had "spared no effort" to push the sale through.

The Senate vote, he said, should prove to the Arabs that Washington was not biased against them and this, in turn, "will give added impetus to the U.S. role in helping proceed with the rest of the comprehensive settlement."

The Senate vote would also encourage the Saudis, who had already played a constructive role in Lebanon, to continue their efforts in the direction of a peaceful settlement of the Lebanon and Middle Eastern crises, he said.

The full text of the interview follows:

[Question] Do you expect Israel to complete its withdrawal from Sinai in April, 1982?

[Answer] Yes. We have no doubt that Israel will fulfill its obligations under the peace treaty fully, and withdrawal will take place on the date set in the treaty.

[Question] So you don't share the view of those who say that Israel may use President as-Sadat's death as a pretext to drag its feet?

[Answer] No, I do not believe so. They have indicated that they stand by their commitments exactly as we stand by ours. We have indicated that we will fulfill our obligations under the Camp David treaty, and they have said they will fulfill theirs.

[Question] What is your reaction to General Eytan's statement that President as-Sadat's assassination has knocked down the central pillar of the Israeli-Egyptian peace agreement and that the world must now wait to see whether the ceiling will collapse?

[Answer] I don't think General Eytan represents the consensus of views in Israel when he says that. From the statements I have seen by Prime Minister Begin, by the Cabinet, by responsible Israeli officials, by the common man in the street, everyone is anxious, determined, to continue along the road that we have started. It's the same with us: We will continue along our road.

[Question] There has been speculation that Israel might "test" Mr Mubarak's commitment to the Camp David peace process by taking aggressive action against the Arabs, possibly by resuming hostilities in Lebanon. Do you think this is likely to happen? And if it does, how is Egypt likely to react?

[Answer] From what we hear from the Israelis, I do not believe that they are anxious or geared to do this. What I hear is continued respect for the cease-fire in Lebanon and for the commitment that Israel made with Philip Habib and the parties.

And I do not believe that negative "if" questions are really our cup of tea -- yours or mine. I always look ahead positively. Let us move with optimism. Optimism is the strength of building for the future, but pessimism is always destructive. I am not pessimistic by nature.

[Question] Do you expect the Mubarak administration to keep up President as-Sadat's calls for a U.S.-PLO dialogue and for mutual recognition between the PLO and Israel?

[Answer] He certainly has been reiterating what President as-Sadat said, because it is the policy of Egypt. We have all been reiterating it. Here in Washington, I have had ample occasion to express that view on different platforms. It represents the policy of Egypt and not the policy of just one man, President as-Sadat. In everything he said, President as-Sadat reflected the consensus of the Egyptian people, and President Mubarak has followed suit because he too represents the policy of the Egyptian people.

[Question] How do you expect Egypt to fare in its effort to promote a U.S.-PLO dialogue and mutual recognition between Israel and the PLO?

[Answer] Let me say that President Reagan, in an interview with Trudy Feldman that was published in some newspapers (it was also published in Beirut), did not shut the door on a dialogue between the U.S. and the PLO. All he said was that he hoped that the Saudis will play their role to convince the PLO to recognize the right of Israel to exist, thus preparing the atmosphere for such steps of dialogue to take place.

In other words, I feel that there is ample opportunity -- much more than ever before -- for us to move into an atmosphere in which that dialogue will take place. All parties will then take the steps that they already know -- and have known for a long time -- that they must take: Recognition between the PLO and Israel and the achievement of peace between them on the basis of their mutual respect of each other's rights. The Palestinians would have self-determination and their own state federated with Jordan or as they would like it to be, and Israel would be secure within its 1967 borders, with mutual respect and normalization between them, exactly as is now happening between us and Israel as a result of the peace treaty.

[Question] Do you concur with Israeli Foreign Minister Shamir's view that the idea of the autonomy talks was not to set up a homeland for the Palestinians and that the Palestinians already have a homeland in Jordan?

[Answer] Definitely not. The name of the game in the Camp David agreements is to put the Palestinians on the road to self-determination in the West Bank and Gaza. That is how Camp David is written, how it is understood and how it will be implemented in the final analysis. And the transition period of three to five years of full autonomy is to lead the Palestinians to the self-determination that we are talking about. This is the understanding of America, this is the understanding of Egypt, this is the understanding of everyone. And I believe that Foreign Minister Shamir ought to see the realities of the day and thus help bring about that self-determination, which will bring peace, stability and prosperity to the area.

[Question] When you talk about self-determination, are you talking about a state?

[Answer] I said a minute ago, in answer to a previous question, that the Palestinians would have their own state in the West Bank and Gaza, federated with Jordan or confederated, as they wish it to be.

[Question] Israeli Foreign Minister Shamir says his government would refuse to consider the PLO as a possible negotiating partner even if that organization were to accept Israel's right to exist. How realistic does this statement sound to you?

[Answer] Totally unrealistic, and it doesn't even fit the philosophy of Israel, which has for the past 30 years been saying: I would like to negotiate directly, across the table, eye to eye, with the Arabs who are at war with Israel. Those were their words exactly, and they have even gone farther. They have said: We would like to negotiate directly, not by proxy. I always tell the Israeli colleagues I see here that I return to Israel its own prescription and tell her: "Please fill it."

[Question] Egypt has repeatedly said that it will not talk for the Palestinians. If so, what are the Egyptian-Israeli talks on "Palestinian autonomy" all about?

[Answer] Well, we are not by any means determining the Palestinians' future. We say they must determine it by themselves. All we are trying to do is to convince the Israelis to help bring the Palestinians into the negotiations. Thus, we have been insisting on, first, easing the tension in the West Bank and Gaza; second, preparing the way, by proper implementation of the Camp David agreements, for the Palestinians to participate in the election of a self-governing authority; and third, making the autonomy meaningful, so that the Palestinians can govern themselves by themselves for themselves -- in all fields with the exception of foreign affairs and building an army -- for a transition period of three years, after which they can decide their own future in an act of self-determination.

That has been the attitude of Egypt, and so it remains. It is the Palestinians who must decide their own future.

[Question] Is the idea of bringing peace to a strategic region like the Middle East without the active participation of one of the two superpowers, the Soviet Union, realistic?

[Answer] Well, we have seen Camp David happen. The peace treaty between Egypt and Israel has been concluded, is being implemented, and the Israelis are withdrawing from Sinai. All of this is happening without the participation of the Soviet Union. The facts speak for themselves.

[Question] But what about a comprehensive peace involving all the other parties?

[Answer] If the Soviet Union had been adopting a more reasonable approach, it would have been a different thing. But unfortunately, the Soviet Union has been pouring oil on the fire, trying to explode the situation instead of calming it down.

I think you have another example in the cease-fire between the Palestinians and the Israelis. Who worked it out? The Saudis, the Americans and the parties themselves -- Israel and the PLO.

I think the two acts I have mentioned speak for themselves, indicating how you can achieve results in the right atmosphere and with the kind of participation that I have just explained.

[Question] Do you believe that the assassination of President as-Sadat will prompt Washington to play a more active role in persuading the Israelis to make concessions towards a comprehensive settlement?

[Answer] Yes, I believe so. It's already being seen and felt, not only in the United States, not only in the administration in Washington, but equally in Congress, in the media, and in Europe as well. You have seen how much the French talked about that when they decided to participate in the multi-national force.

I believe the voice around the world is "let us lose no more time; let us step on the gas, so to speak, and reach the conclusions that we must reach in order to bring self-determination to the Palestinians, security to all the countries in the area and prosperity to all the people there."

[Question] Do you consider the EC's intended participation in the Sinai peace-keeping force an Egyptian victory and a defeat for the Arab opponents of Camp David?

[Answer] Well, I don't want to call things a victory for some and defeat for others. Let us not look at things from this angle. I think it is a definite victory for the progress towards peace, because it means that the world is supporting the implementation of the principle of total withdrawal from occupied Arab land. I think it should be a cause for rejoicing for all Arabs and for all peace-loving people wherever they exist. Thus, I think it is a victory for everyone in the Arab world who is calling for total withdrawal from occupied Arab land.

[Question] Should the EC member states provide troops for the multi-national force in Sinai. Wouldn't that make the so-called EEC peace initiative in the Middle East a non-starter?

[Answer] Why? It shouldn't in any way hamper the initiative of the European countries or curtail their efforts to find a way to help achieve a comprehensive settlement.

We do not say that Camp David is the sole framework, nor do we say that we in Egypt have a monopoly on the rest of the comprehensive settlement. If others -- Europeans or Arabs or others -- can contribute, so be it. We would welcome the contribution. As you know from what President as-Sadat said when he was in Europe and later in Washington in August, and from what President Mubarak has reiterated, we have applauded the Saudi effort in bringing about the cease-fire between Palestinians and Israelis -- an unprecedented achievement. We all applaud our Saudi brothers for this breakthrough.

I think the effort to secure a total withdrawal through a contribution by the European countries implements a principal point in Prine Fahd's proposals -- namely, total withdrawal of Israeli troops from Arab land -- and still gives the Europeans room to pursue their initiative in order to achieve a comprehensive settlement.

[Question] But since several Arab states have already expressed their opposition to European participation in the force, don't you think that European participation might cost Europe some of its leverage in the Middle East -- at least in the eyes of Arab countries?

[Answer] I believe that many of our Arab brothers will have second thoughts about their original opposition when they look at matters thoroughly and objectively.

Are they opposed to the withdrawal of Israeli forces from our land? I answer in their name: I do not think that they are opposed. I do not think any Arab is opposed to Israel evacuating an Arab land.

All right. If a country is anxious to help achieve that, are they opposed to that help? The answer to the first question is the answer to this one.

So the initial opposition which appears to be expressed in some Arab statements on European participation in the force does not really stand on the solid ground of Arab determination to see Israeli troops move out of occupied Arab land.

[Question] With a new administration installed in Cairo, what are the chances of Egypt returning to the Arab fold -- especially since some Saudi press editorials have already favored giving President Mubarak an opportunity to do so, and since President Mubarak has asked the Egyptian press to refrain from attacking his Arab opponents?

[Answer] Our position has never changed and will never change. We are not the ones who broke away from our Arab brothers, and we will continue to keep an open heart, an open mind and an open door for all our Arab brothers to look into the situation again, to return to the situation that existed. They have made accusations which are wrong. I am sure that as they review the situation in the light of what has been happening, they will see that their action has not been based on a proper reading. And if they decide that the time has come for them to extend their hand to us, well, our hand is there to grasp it.

[Question] So if Egypt receives an invitation to attend the Arab summit in November, for instance, will it accept the invitation?

[Answer] I think Cairo has indicated that at this stage, it is not anxious to give any appearance that can be interpreted to mean anything but that we are continuing along our road -- to complete the withdrawal of Israeli troops from our territories and to put our Palestinian brothers on the track to full autonomy leading to self-determination. We are determined to continue along that road.

[Question] And if someone is ready to talk to you on these terms, you are ready to talk to him?

[Answer] Yes indeed.

[Question] Do you think the chances of Egypt returning to the Arab fold will increase after it recovers Sinai in April, 1982?

[Answer] Our policy before April '82 and after April '82 will be the same. We do not adopt policies for one period and change them in another period. Our policies are based on principles, and these principles have been adopted by an overwhelming majority of our people. They are meant to help our Arab brothers in Palestine to get their self-determination, their honor, their rights, their state.... In consequence, our course after April '82 will be the same as it was before April '82.

[Question] There have been reports of a possible rapprochement between Egypt and Saudi Arabia in particular. How credible are these reports?

[Answer] Let me say that contacts between us and our Saudi brothers have never stopped. We have had continuous contacts at all times. We are one family. Even if there are certain disagreements on the surface at certain times, the relationship has always been there, will always be there, and the understanding will continue.

[Question] What kind of contacts do you have with Saudi Arabia?

[Answer] Let's not talk about the details of things. I will content myself with what I told you.

[Question] What significance do you attach to the alleged Saudi statement, reported by Bonn, that Mr Mubarak deserved trust and support?

[Answer] I was happy to hear about this statement. I think it shows that there is, as there has always been, tremendous grounds for friendship and understanding between Saudi Arabia and Egypt. Members of a family sometimes have disagreements among themselves; that is only natural. It is equally natural that the time should come when they have occasion to get together, to understand better what is involved and to have bridges developed between them that are as strong as ever before. I look forward to that day.

[Question] Does the statement herald a new phase of relations between Egypt and the Saudi Kingdom, in your opinion?

[Answer] Well, as I told you, we have always had strong, solid relations with Saudi Arabia. We have been with them in the larger strategic picture which encompasses us and other reasonable members of the larger Arab family. I think that whatever misunderstanding there has been on the part of the Saudis and other Arab brothers regarding what Egypt did and what Egypt's intentions are is now beginning to clear up, and I look forward to that relationship being strengthened continuously.

[Question] And "normalized," in the sense of formal relations being restored between Egypt and Saudi Arabia?

[Answer] Let us take things gradually. Let us not precipitate any action unduly. There has been a statement in the right direction. We welcome that, and we look forward to a continuous clearing of the horizon. We are happy that the AWACS deal has been voted through in the Senate. President as-Sadat worked a great deal for it, President Mubarak continued his efforts, and we, on his instructions, have spared no effort in this regard.

As you see, there is a larger bond that ties Saudi Arabia and Egypt, and we look forward to strengthening it continuously.

[Question] So contacts between Cairo and Riyadh seem to be under way. What about contacts between Cairo and other Arab capitals?

[Answer] Well, our hand is there at all times. We spare no effort to defend our Arab brothers wherever they are; to defend their rights, as we have been defending the Palestinians' rights. I, for one, upon instructions from Cairo, have been working 95 percent for the Palestinian cause. I no longer have a problem vis-a-vis the Egyptian cause -- withdrawal from Sinai is taking place on schedule -- and all my work has been in defense of a rightful cause; the Palestinians' right to self-determination. We will spare no effort in this.

We have been staunch supporters and allies of the Sudan, to defend their integrity and political independence. We did not hesitate to help our Iraqi brothers when they came to us seeking weapons; we did not shrink back. We will not fail in our duty towards our Arab brothers.

[Question] What about reports in the Jordanian press that there are contacts between Cairo and some Arab capitals?

[Answer] You have to remember that I speak from Washington, and in consequence I don't have all the panorama of contacts between Cairo and wherever. But I can at least say that on my side here, we have been having continuous contacts and friendship with our Saudi brothers and others.

[Question] In the light of this week's meeting between Prince Fahd and King Husayn, do you expect Jordan to follow Saudi Arabia's lead in declaring its support for President Mubarak?

[Answer] Well, as I said, we have welcomed Prince Fahd's statement. We have welcomed this development, and we hope there will be equal understanding on the part of our Arab brothers wherever they are. We have never hesitated to extend our friendship, but one hand is not enough for a handshake.

[Question] In your interview with MONDAY MORNING last August, you said that speculation about religious unrest in Egypt was unjustified. Do you believe that events since then -- notably the assassination of President as-Sadat by so-called "religious fanatics" -- have proved you wrong?

[Answer] No, it doesn't prove me wrong. That kind of speculation is not justified, and the act of some crazy people does not mean that I am wrong in saying that it is not justified. Fanatics never prove a logical argument by their action. Fanatics, unfortunately, are driven by dogma and do not use logical thinking, the logical approach and dialogue that are required to solve problems if they exist. Killing a person has never solved a problem. It complicates matters.

You have seen how a pope was shot, how President Reagan was shot. That does not mean that reasonable people have been proved wrong; it just means that there are some sick people in the international community that we need to deal with.

[Question] Do you expect President Mubarak to come to terms with the Egyptian opposition?

[Answer] We have always given the Egyptian opposition the opportunity to voice its opinion freely, without constraints, but within the limits required by the well-being of the country, and that means respect of its traditions, of its rights and obligations.

The opposition has had its newspapers and has never hesitated to publish its views -- against Camp David, against the peace treaty, against normalization, against the economic order that the government has adopted and our Parliament has sanctioned. The opposition dares to speak its mind, and President Mubarak has reiterated that the opposition will continue to have the rights that it has always enjoyed. That is something we are proud of, the fact that there is an opposition in the country shows that we are embarked on a policy that is sound and we are not afriad of criticism.

[Question] How indicative of mass Egyptian opposition to the Camp David process are the recent wave of arrests and the repeated gunbattles in Asyut and Cairo?

[Answer] I would take issue with you when you say "mass Egyptian opposition." There is no "mass" opposition. A few hundred, even a few thousand, do not make "mass" opposition.

There is opposition, and I just said that we are proud to have that kind of healthy atmosphere and institutions in our country, but fanatics do not represent what you would call a healthy opposition. These are people who are bent on killing, on destruction, and any society would repulse them and deal with them in the manner that would make society secure from their malicious actions.

[Question] Do you expect the present conflict between Egypt and Sudan on the one hand and Libya on the other to develop into an all-out war?

[Answer] No, I don't think it will lead to that. We hope that Al-Qadhdhafi will see the light and simmer down in his policy and his actions. We are continuously extending our hand to all our brothers in the Arab world, neighbors or otherwise, to have friendly relations across borders and beyond. But at the same time, if anyone tampers with our security, our territorial integrity or our sovereignty, we will not let it go. We will have to repulse it with all the power that we have.

[Question] In your view, what are the implications to Arab-American and Israeli-American relations of President Reagan's success in getting Congress to approve the sale of the AWACS to Saudi Arabia?

[Answer] This development means a better understanding of the needs in the Middle East not only by the administration but also by the Senate. When we talk about a strategic consensus, about strategic security, each one has to play his role. And Saudi Arabia, which has tremendous oil wealth -- a wealth of its own, a wealth for the West, for the free world -- has the right to protect this wealth and secure the necessary equipment to do it.

Two: Those AWACS in the hands of the Saudis do not pose a threat to Israel, which is heavily armed with very sophisticated weapons.

Three: The sale will definitely give the Arab world the message that the United States does not favor one side at the expense of the other, but that it defends all sides. This will give added impetus to the U.S. role in helping proceed with the rest of the comprehensive settlement.

Finally, I think it will encourage the Saudis to play their role. They have already played a positive role in the cease-fire in Lebanon between Palestinians and Israelis and in helping solve the Lebanese crisis itself. This will encourage them to play additional roles to bring all this to fruition and to bring peace even closer.

AL-AHRAM GIVES DETAILS ON ASSASSINATION PLOT

NC060028 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2325 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] Cairo, 5 Nov (MENA) -- In tomorrow's issue, Friday, Al-AHRAM reports that the investigations of members of the terrorist organization reveal that five groups participated in a plan to fight the government and to take power despite ideological differences. The paper says the plan at first proceeded on two courses: The first aimed at reconnoitering the sites and installations they decided to attack and the persons they decided to assassinate. The second was executive and aimed at recruiting members and training them on various weapons. The investigations also reveal that the organization's leaders agreed to assassinate President as-Sadat, after the security organs uncovered and captured a large number of them. In addition, the investigations show that the terrorists had more than one plan to assassinate As-Sadat, including one at the Al-Qanatir resthouse and another by detonating a car full of gas cylinders.

AL-AHRAM adds that the organization's leaders drew up a plan to steal arms from central security soldiers by putting them to sleep by means of an anesthetic prepared by a pharmacist and placed in their food.

The higher state security prosecution is continuing investigations into terrorist organization leaders and some members. The prosecution has completed interrogating 65 defendants, including 'Abbud az-Zumur, Tariq az-Zumur, Nabil al-Mughrabi, Muhammad 'Abd as-Silah Faraj, 'Abd an-Nasir 'Abd al-'Aziz Durrah, Dr Amin Yusuf ad-Dumayri and Muhammad Abu al-Hadid.

Office personnel following up the investigations into terrorist cases, which are supervised by adviser 'Atif Zaki, an assistant public prosecutor, have begun investigations into the Bulaq ad-Dakrur group, which includes well over 70 members led by electrical engineer Muhammad 'Abd as-Salam Faraj. Investigations are also underway of the Asyut group, which was headed by the prince of Upper Egypt, Karam Zuhdi, which attacked the security headquarters and certain sections there as well as some central security men.

AL-AHRAM further says that these investigations reveal new details of the dimensions of the terrorist scheme to create chaos, devastation, destruction and sectarian sedition in the country in order to take power. It has been discovered that five groups participated in the terrorist plan. Despite differences in ideas, they agreed on one aim: To fight the government and overthrow it and then to establish their own state and appoint the organization's mufti and prince of princes of the Islamic Groups, 'Umar 'Abd ar-Rahman, as leader after he issued his judgment that the government was atheist and permitted them to steal to finance their goals.

The investigations further reveal that the coup plan was prepared to proceed on two courses: The planning was to be undertaken by 'Abbud az-Zumur and the organizing was to be undertaken by members of the organization. According to the first course, they reconnoitered places they were to attack and take over, such as the radio and television buildings, the police stations and the state security intelligence, and decided which persons they wanted to assassinate and put them under surveillance. The second course was recruiting and training persons in the use of various weapons. The organization's plan proceeded as planned until some members were captured on 25 September when the security organs managed to discover their movements, meetings and training. They then realized it was impossible to continue with their secret organization and agreed to assassinate President as-Sadat.

AL-AHRAM adds that it has been discovered that the terrorist organization's members thought of more than one plan to assassinate President as-Sadat, one by detonating a car full of gas cylinders and another to assassinate him at the Al-Qanatir al-Khayriyah resthouse. 'Abbud az-Zumur managed to reconnoiter the area around the resthouse and the guards. He looked for persons who swam well to carry out the plan. Later, however, Muhammad 'Abd as-Salam proposed to 'Abbud az-Zumur a plan to assassinate As-Sadat on the reviewing stand by Lt Khalid al-Islambuli and three others. Accordingly, Muhammad 'Abd as-Salam and Nabil al-Mughrabi went to Khalid al-Islambuli's hideout in the pyramid area. Khalid al-Islambuli approved the plan and so did the Asyut group, which was scheduled to move with the rest of the groups as soon as the assassination took place. Furthermore, a plan calling for acts of violence in the governorates was also approved by the organization's mutfi, 'Umar 'Abd ar-Rahman. It has been ascertained that a pharmacist and doctor in the organization went to 'Abbud's hideout as soon as the
Egyptian pounds and asked him to defer action until they finished preparing a thorough plan. The security organs, however, managed to capture the organization's members and foiled their plan.

Investigations further reveal that in their bid to obtain arms, the organization's members thought of stealing rifles from central security men after doping them. A member of the organization, a pharmacist, prepared an anesthetic to be put in cakes given to a group of soldiers in order to steal 20 of their rifles. The plan, however, failed. The investigations also reveal that the organization was using noms de guerre for its members and a special code. The members had prepared two councils to run governmental affairs when they took power -- one was the Ulama council and the other a consultative council including most of the organization's leaders.

MUBARAK ACCEPTS RESIGNATION OF PRESIDENTIAL AIDE

NC051349 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1344 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] Cairo, 5 Nov (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak has accepted the resignation of Eng Sayyid Mar'i from the post of presidential assistant.

This took place at a meeting held at the Al-'Urubah Palace last Saturday.

'ALI ON ARAB, ISRAELI RELATIONS, ARAB SUMMIT

NC051635 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] Cairo, 5 Nov (MENA) -- At a meeting with some U.S. journalists today and in answer to a question on Egypt's participation in the forthcoming Arab summit conference in Fes, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that several matters must be settled before a reconciliation with the Arabs can occur and that this reconciliation must take place on a clear basis. He said: In any case, it will not at all affect our relations with Israel. Any Arab-Egyptian rapprochement will not be at the expense of Egyptian-Israeli relations. 'Ali added that the Camp David accords are still the only actual fact in the Palestinian question. The establishment of full autonomy for the Palestinians is a practical thing that is both necessary and urgent. All the articles in the Camp David agreements regarding full autonomy for the Palestinians must be implemented, 'Ali said.

'ALI MEETING WITH EEC MEMBER STATES POSTPONED

NC051248 Cairo MENA in English 1215 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] Cairo, 5 Nov (MENA) -- The meeting, which was to take place today between Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy premier and foreign minister and the ambassadors of Holland, Britain, Italy and France, has been postponed to a later date.

The new date will be fixed in the light of consultations among EEC countries to reach an agreed upon formula concerning their participation in the multi-national force to be deployed on the Israeli-Egyptian border, following Israel's final withdrawal from Sinai on April 25.

FRANCE-SOIR INTERVIEW WITH BUTRUS GHALI

PM061035 Paris FRANCE-SOIR in French 5 Nov 81 p 8

[Thierry Desjardins interview with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali in Paris: "Butrus Ghali Tells FRANCE-SOIR: Nothing and Nobody Will Make Us Change Our Attitude to Israel" -- date not given]

[Text] Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Pierre [as published] Butrus Ghali is in Paris for a few days at the head of the Egyptian delegation taking part in the Franco-African conference. FRANCE-SOIR met with him and asked five questions:

[Question] What do you expect from this conference?

[Answer] It is all too often forgotten that Egypt is an African country. We attach a great deal of importance to Africa. We are busy implementing a peace settlement in Asia but that peace would serve no purpose if we had a war in Africa. Moreover we have regular consultations with Paris precisely on the subject of Africa.

[Question] Have you noticed a change in French policy since 10 May?

[Answer] There is an obvious change of style. As regards a fundamental change, it is still too soon to say.

[Question] What is Egypt's present attitude to the Fahd plan?

[Answer] Egypt does not have a monopoly of peaceful solutions. We support any initiative provided it secures the agreement of all parties concerned, in other words Israel, the Palestinians, the United States and Egypt. We say "yes" to the Saudi plan in principle, but we wonder how it can be implemented.

[Question] Al-Qadhdhafi announced that his troops were withdrawing from Chad. Do you feel that the Libyan head of state is going to become reasonable?

[Answer] If he really withdraws his troops it will improve the atmosphere in Africa. Are there grounds for optimism? I am not naturally optimistic.

[Question] Do you think that Egypt will henceforth be less isolated in the Arab world?

[Answer] It is not Egypt which is isolated. It is the Arab world. Nonetheless we are in favor of a rapprochement with the Arab world. But we want this on one condition -- that nobody asks us to change our policy of normalization with Israel. Nothing and nobody can make us change that policy. Everybody must realize this. In 149 days we will have recovered the whole of Sinai. Between now and then we hope to find a temporary solution for the Palestinians, something which will change the atmosphere in Gaza and the West Bank. Believe me, it is our policy which is the right one.

PRESIDENT SADDAM HUSAYN PROPOSES CEASE-FIRE

JN051830 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Nov 81

["Full recording" of the 5 November speech by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to the women's delegations participating in the ninth conference of the Arab Women's Federation in Baghdad]

[Excerpts] I would like to stress that today's Iraqi woman is different from the one who lived before the revolution. Iraq as a whole was also different before the revolution; the people were divided. There was conflict among nationalities, conflict among religions, conflict among parties and conflict among classes. Iraq's economy was backward and fragmented. Education was also backward. The country was an open arena for foreign subjugation.

Today, Iraq is in a different position. The human being is the most important link in this position. When we say human being we do not mean the man alone but any citizen, be it man or woman, child or old man, peasant or worker, doctor or engineer or fighter.

Today, we see the Iraqi woman in Iraq encouraging her son and husband to fight. The Iraqi woman does not accept a son or husband who refuses to to fight. This is a new situation. This is a situation which has turned the Tehran rulers' calculations upside down and has frustrated their belief that they can simply seize Baghdad, and that after Baghdad, and road will be open for them to take over the Gulf, the Arabian Peninsula and other Arab countries. The Iraqis have disappointed these rulers.

We can say, without boasting, that the Iraqis are now fighting, not on behalf of the Arab nation's high values and of preservation of these values alone, but also on behalf of the high values of mankind. They are combating backwardness, ignorance, chaos and contempt of mankind. Therefore, we believe that Iraqis are also fighting on behalf of the good Iranians as well as the oppressed people of the Iranian nationalities and freedom-loving Persians.

We are fully confident that the Tehran rulers do not have faith in religion or its values, which we are familiar with and which we, the Arabs, carried to Iran. We are also confident that these rulers are behaving contrary to the essence of religion and to its noble values, which uphold peace and mankind.

After we proved to them that Iraq is not an easy prey, we appealed to them to stop the war, establish peace, respect Iraq and the Arab nation and deal with us on the basis of equality and nonintervention in domestic affairs. Regrettably, they interpreted our appeals for peace as weakness, although they tried their luck in the theater of operations for months and months, specifically, for 1 year and 2 months. Still they continue to show arrogance due to their ignorance, their designs and their sick mentalities.

We reiterate that our love for peace and our preparedness to stop fighting and to establish relations of good neighborliness -- in which the Iranian respects the Iraqi and the Arab and the Iraqi and Arab respect the Iranian, and they mutually recognize each other's right to live in peace and pursue any course they might choose -- does not cancel our ceaseless preparedness to continue fighting in defense of country, sovereignty and homeland, as well as in defense of our children, new edifice and sublime values.

Today, we again ask the Tehran rulers if they really believe in heavenly values. We tell them that this month is a holy month. If they are ready for peace, we are fully prepared. [applause] And if they are ready for peace only during the holy month, we agree to stop fighting during the holy month.

Perhaps a cease-fire during the holy month might enable them to think of a lasting peace among them on the one hand and between the Arabs and Iraq on the other.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE 513

JN051749 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Communique No 513 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 5 November 1981]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With valor and courage, our armed forces confirm their resolve to teach hard lessons to the racist Perisan clique until it gives in and recognizes our pan-Arab and national rights. The results of our armed forces' activities last night and today are as follows:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Last night, one of our forward units in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region intercepted an enemy force which was trying to approach its forward positions. Our unit clashed with the enemy force with various weapons and forced it to retreat, inflicting heavy losses in lives which we were unable to determine due to the bad weather.
B. Our forward units pounded with various weapons enemy concentrations in front of their positions in the Abadan region, killing 25 and destroying 1 tank, 2 vehicles, 4 stockpiles of hardware and 3 observation posts.
C. Five were killed and two guns destroyed in the Shush region.
D. Three tanks, one personnel carrier and one gun were destroyed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region.
E. One excavator was destroyed in the Ahvaz region.
F. Our brave air force attacked enemy positions and concentrations in the southern sector of the theater of operations, scoring direct and effective hits before returning safely to base.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 20 killed and 4 tanks, 1 personnel carrier, 2 vehicles, 3 guns, 1 excavator, 4 stockpiles of hardware and 3 observation posts destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 17 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: One personnel carrier, four vehicles and one gun damaged.
C. This morning, the Persian enemy shelled the Basra region with heavy artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 5 November 1981

SOVIET-IRAQI FRIENDSHIP MEETING HELD 5 NOV

JN051510 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1340 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Nov (INA) -- An Iraqi-Soviet friendship meeting was held here today at the headquarters of the Union of Iraqi Friendship Societies with Peoples.

During this meeting, Dr Najih Muhammad Khalil, chairman of the Iraqi-Soviet Friendship Society, welcomed the Soviet delegation and expressed the hope that its visit will give it the opportunity to acquaint itself with Iraq's achievements and progress in various fields.

Dr Khalil stressed the importance of the role played by the Iraqi-Soviet and Soviet-Iraqi friendship societies in strengthening ties between the two friendly countries.

Vladimir Movsesyan, deputy chairman of the Armenian SSR Council of Ministers and head of the Soviet delegation, expressed his pleasure and that of his delegation at visiting Iraq and participating in the celebrations of the Iraqi-Soviet friendship days. He wished the two peoples' friendship further development.

MINISTRY ON DETENTION OF IRAQIS IN BEIRUT

JN051927 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1900 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Nov (INA) -- The Foreign Ministry today denounced the action carried out by the Syrian deterrent forces in Beirut when they detained eight Iraqi Embassy employees on the way to Beirut airport to bid farewell to a colleague.

The Foreign Ministry would like to draw attention to the fact that such incidents confirm that the Syrian deterrent forces have deviated from the mission entrusted to them and that Iraq cannot remain idle over these incidents.

The spokesman added that the embassy employees were detained while they were being escorted by two vehicles belonging to the Lebanese gendarmerie. The employees were released after a 4-hour detention during which they were beaten, humiliated and interrogated by elements of the Syrian deterrent forces.

The spokesman asserted that, while the Foreign Ministry strongly denounces this act of aggression, which contravenes diplomatic norms and the deterrent forces' mission, it draws the attention of the Lebanese Government and the Arab governments to the fact that they must shoulder their responsibility toward protecting diplomatic missions and rectifying this situation, which no longer can be ignored or disregarded.

PRESIDENT RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM YAR PRESIDENT

JN051238 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] President Saddam Husayn received at noon today Hasan Ahmad al-Lawzi, YAR minister of information and culture, who conveyed to him an oral message from his brother, President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, on existing fraternal bilateral relations. The meeting was attended by Tariq Hamad al-'Abdallah, Revolution Command Council secretary and acting chief of the president's office, and Latif Nusayyif Jasim [ad-Dulaymi], minister of culture and information.

BRIEFS

NONALIGNED LABOR MINISTERS CONFERENCE -- Baghdad, 5 Nov (INA) -- Labor and Social Affairs Minister Bakr Mahmud Rasul today received the ambassadors and heads of missions of the Asian countries accredited to Iraq. The minister handed them invitations for the labor ministers in their countries to attend the second conference of the Nonaligned [Movement] Countries' labor ministers scheduled to be held in Baghdad on 12 December. [Baghdad INA in Arabic 1935 GMT 5 Nov 81 JN]

KING HUSAYN HOLDS WASHINGTON PRESS CONFERENCE

JN051411 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Excerpts] His Majesty King Husayn said he discussed developments in years past as well as Jordan's stand on them and the contacts held with international forums and the United States before and after UN Security Council Resolution No 242, which is based on Israel's withdrawal from occupied Arab territory.

Speaking at a press conference held in Washington last night and attended by correspondents of Arab newspapers, magazines and news agencies, his majesty added that he concentrated on the fact that Jerusalem is an occupied territory which must return to Arab sovereignty, that it is important for all those believing in God and that no peace can be achieved without it because it is a symbol of this peace.

His majesty stressed: Our stand is clear. This cannot be a logical or a reasonable demand since Israel itself does not admit the presence of the Palestinians nor their organization, denying them their right to their land and soil. If the aim is to make progress, is it possible for there to be reconsideration and direct contact by any side that wants to undertake mediation or good offices that can lead to the required results, any side that is supposed to have contacts with all the concerned sides and the PLO?

The Palestinian brothers are concerned since it is their present and their future that are concerned.

King Husayn said: Thus, the problem exists with all these dimensions and dangers. His majesty asked: Are the doors closed? Is there opportunity for reconsideration in one way or another? His majesty added: I found a lot of warmth, readiness and acceptance -- readiness to listen, accept logic and show concern for the region. I can say that the picture is different now from what it was in the recent past. I can say that there is now a strong leadership in the United States, a leadership that is capable of and perhaps desirous of understanding truths and, consequently, adopting stands which I hope will be positive in the future.

King Husayn said: The doors are not closed like they were during my previous visit to the United States 1 1/2 years ago, during Carter's administration, when I did not feel I was holding a dialogue with a leadership that had sufficient flexibility, understanding of reality and ability to consider the course of events.

It seems to me now that the picture is different. I am not overly optimistic. There is nothing specific but this is a new start for Arab effort. If God wills it, the picture will change positively and perhaps within a reasonable period of time.

Asked about Saudi Crown Prince Fahd's peace plan, Jordan's stand on it and whether his majesty has discussed this plan with President Reagan, His Majesty King Husayn said that he did not discuss the text of the plan because he was not entrusted by his brother Arab leaders with such a mission. He said: I met with His Highness Crown Prince Fahd in London when I was on my way to the United States. It seems to me that the principles included in the Saudi plan are from the resolutions of the international organization and the Arab summit.

His majesty added: It seems to me that the issue will be discussed during the forthcoming Arab summit. In truth, what is important when any idea is either proposed or adopted is, naturally, Arab understanding and unanimity so that such an idea can assume the necessary caliber with regard to procuring the means of support for it, following up the idea and getting everyone to participate in making progress in order to achieve the goal.

His majesty said: I have no objection all with regard to this initiative. Perhaps something good might come out of it.

Asked if he would expect Israel to carry out an irresponsible deed to impose what it considers a new U.S. stand in the Middle East [as heard], his majesty said that the possibility exists, so far as we and Lebanon are concerned. If Israel entertained such a thought, it might carry out an adventure but we have to be vigilant. At any rate, we cautioned that Camp David had completed its 4th year and had begun the 5th year, but the process is one of gaining time.

Israel's project to shift water from the Mediterranean to the Dead Sea is an attack on the rights of others and the occupied territories and contravenes international law and norms. The project is not aimed at generating power as a result of the fall of water but at cooling new nuclear reactors and atomic stations. Israel is not a signatory of treaties for the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons. Israel has attacked a fraternal Arab country which is a signatory of these treaties and whose reactor was under international supervision and control.

His Majesty King Husayn said that this attack, in addition to what was previously mentioned gives the impression that Israel has no serious intentions to withdraw from occupied territories and recognize Arab rights.

In reply to a question, his majesty said: I believe facts will soon prove that we are right and this will force everyone, including the United States, to reconsider their stands if they desire a comprehensive and just peace in the area, because there can be no progress if Israel does not give up anything for the sake of peace. This is clear as far as I am concerned, but I believe it will become clear as the others are concerned as well.

In conclusion, his majesty said that President Reagan is a man of principle and constituted a strong leadership. If he is convinced of a line, he pursues it bravely. I have the feelings that President Reagan will be fair and that there is great hope that the U.S. line will be different from that of the past.

TV INTERVIEWS PREMIER ON KING'S TALKS IN U.S.

JN060904 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Prime Minister Mudar Badran interview with Jordan TV correspondent in Washington -- date not given; videotaped]

[Excerpts] [Question] What were the main issues tackled during King Husayn's talks with the U.S. President and other officials in the U.S. capital?

[Answer] King Husayn's visit takes place 18 months after his previous visit to the United States. The importance of this visit lies in the fact that during this period, the world witnessed many events and changes, especially in the Middle East. Its importance also lies in the fact that the current U.S. administration is new and different from the previous one. During his last visit, His Majesty King Husayn was not able to open new doors to the former administration with regard to the justice of the Arab cause. The doors remained closed, because that administration was bent on only one thing -- the success of the Camp David accords, which the king considered a dead horse.

During this visit, the king held meetings with President Reagan, Secretary of State Haig and Defense Secretary Weinberger. He also had long discussions with the Foreign Relations Committee in the Senate and the Foreign Affairs Committee in the House of Representatives.

The king explained that security in the region can be achieved only through complete withdrawal from all the territories occupied by Israel in 1967, including Arab Jerusalem. He stressed that Jerusalem is too important to be turned into a political capital for Israel. Jerusalem, he said, is the land of revelations and the cradle of all the monotheistic religions. Therefore, he added, it is too important to become the political capital of Israel. The king also called for achieving the Palestinians' legitimate rights, including their right to determine their own destiny and set up their state on their land.

The king said: It is essential to start a dialogue between the United States and the PLO, the legitimate representative of the Palestinians. We cannot understand, he said, how we can address the Palestinians and stil not talk to the PLO. The king said: I or any other Arab leader cannot present the Palestinian case better than the PLO, which is the sole Palestinian representative. If Israel recognizes the just principles for peace and complete withdrawal, there will be security and stability in the Middle East.

[Question] Have the talks touched on the declared strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel?

[Answer] The talks dealt with various topics. First, they dealt with the strategic cooperation between Israel and the United States as announced by Israel. In the talks held with the U.S. side headed by Weinberger, the defense secretary categorically denied that strategic cooperation agreements were reached between the United States and Israel. He said the subject was just one of storing some medical materials in Israel. There is no strategic military cooperation.

The talks also dealt with bilateral relations between Jordan and the United States. In short, I can say that the visit was useful, fruitful and constructive. We hope this will be a good opportunity for new beginnings. We found the Americans open minded. The president now understands the situation and the picture is clearer than before. He thanked the king for clarifying the picture and its true dimensions. It is hoped that there will be a change in the U.S. stand, which during the previous administration was tilted more toward the Israeli side. We also hope that the United States as a world power will adopt a fair stand.

The king also asserted during the talks that we refuse to turn the Arab homeland into a field for a world power struggle. The Arabs are more able than others to understand the dangers surrounding them. We do not want our homes to become a setting for a world power struggle and thus destroy the hopes and aspirations of the Arab people.

[Correspondent] Thank you, Mr Prime Minister.

AR-RA'Y: ENCOURAGING SIGNS IN TIES WITH U.S.

JN060926 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 6 Nov 81

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "New Beginnings," AR-RA'Y says: At his press conference yesterday, His Majesty King Husayn gave encouraging impressions of his talks with President Reagan and other senior U.S. officials and congressmen. HIs majesty said he found the Americans ready to listen, respond to logic and show interest in the region. The picture now, he added, is different from what it was in the not-so-distant past and doors are no longer shut.

This means there is a chance for a new beginning, which the United States must seize on to repair the many bridges with the Arab world that have been shaken by the inflexibility of the previous U.S. administration. As the king said, reality will soon show that we have a just cause and that many nations, including the United States, will find that they have no choice but to reconsider their stands if they want just and lasting comprehensive peace in the region.

The new beginning now open to Washington calls for judging all Israeli practices on the basis of values, principles, international norms and the interest of mankind. When the U.S. administration does that, it will clearly see the enormous dangers threatening the region and thus realize that peace and stability in the region have only one basis -- Israel's withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories, including Arab Jerusalem, and enabling the Palestinians to determine their own destiny on their land.

Needless to say, by judging Arab-U.S. relations and the legitimate international interests in the region by the same criterion, Washington will find that the Arab people's insistence on preserving their identity and keeping the region outside the world power struggle is the best guarantee for building fruitful relations, achieving real stability in the region and guaranteeing legitimate international interests there.

If the U.S. administration is fortunate enough to pursue this course, the Arabs would also have the chance for a new beginning to reciprocate the U.S. process of repairing its bridges with the Arab world on the one and only basis -- other nations' respect for Arab rights, willpower and identity.

AKHBAR AL-USBU': U.S. TO HOLD CONTACTS WITH PLO

JN051057 Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU' in Arabic 5 Nov 81 p 1

[Text] AKHBAR AL-USBU' has learned from diplomatic sources that President Reagan intends to ask former U.S. Presidents Nixon and Carter to visit the Middle East area shortly in order to hold contacts with the PLO and meet with its Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. Their separate arrival will be preceded by a visit to the area by President Reagan's special envoy Philip Habib, who will this time not only visit Lebanon, Syria, Saudi Arabia and Israel, but also most of the other Arab states, including Jordan. It was said that Habib is entrusted with an urgent mission broader than that of the Syrian missiles. It deals with submitting and receiving broad ideas about the ways to solve the Middle East crisis and achieve a just peace to all the region's states without exception. It was also said that Habib is also entrusted with the task of meeting with Yasir 'Arafat or someone representing him.

These sources believe that in their Middle East mission, Carter and Nixon will carry ideas from U.S. President Reagan and a new concept and conviction resulting from Israel's recent practices with the U.S. Government with regard to the AWACS deal to Saudi Arabia and the U.S. and European feeling of the importance of the OPEC decision on fixing oil prices for 1982.

AR-RA'Y: KING HUSAYN TO VISIT CANADA 12 NOV

JN051330 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 5 Nov 81 p 1

[Exclusive report]

[Text] Ottawa -- Canadian Prime Minister Pierre-Elliott Trudeau has announced that His Majesty King Husayn will pay a 3-day official visit to Canada on 12 November.

SHAM'UN DISPUTES KHADDAM CLAIMS ON SYRIAN ROLE

PM060909 Beirut AN-NAHAR in Arabic 3 Nov 81 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Sham'un Criticizes Khaddam on 'Contradiction' and Says: 'Syria Has Ambitions and Desire To Dominate; No Inter-Lebanese Dispute Necessitating Continued Presence of Syrian Forces'"]

[Text] [Former] President Camille Sham'un yesterday observed that there was a "deep contradiction" in Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's statements. He also noted "the assignment of roles" to Syrian politicians, emphasizing that "there is absolutely no dispute among the Lebanese necessitating the presence of the Syrian Army to resolve it."

Sham'un was replying to the interview Khaddam granted to American journalists in which he declared that "Syria has no ambitions in Lebanon." Sham'un said that "anyone who carefully reads 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's interview with the American journalists will detect a deep contradiction in his statements. Khaddam said that Syria has no ambitions in Lebanon. He also said that Syria is staying in Lebanon until the dispute is settled and that it is patiently working to achieve accord. The truth is that Syria has ambitions in Lebanon and also has a desire to dominate Lebanon's foreign policy and, to a greater extent, its domestic policy.

"The talks about dispute and accord is only an excuse, no more and no less, which Syria is using to justify its presence in Lebanon when it is faced with world public opinion questioning its presence there. There is absolutely no dispute among the Lebanese that requires the presence of the Syrian Army to resolve it.

"In fact Syria has been working so far not to eliminate the dispute among the Lebanese but to perpetuate and deepen it, this has been obvious on several occasions. If there is a dispute, it is an internal political dispute in Lebanon and Syria has nothing to do with it or with settling it.

"The Syrian forces came to Lebanon under certain circumstances defined by the Arab League, particularly the Lebanese Army's inability at the time to maintain the cease-fire and security. Now that the Lebanese Army is capable of assuming this task, there is no longer a need for the Syrian presence in Lebanon, political or military.

"There is another aspect of Khaddam's interview with the American journalists with regard to Syria's relationship with the United States. A reading of the interview clearly reveals the roles assigned to the Syrian politicians. Whereas Khaddam says that there is no disagreement between Syria and the United States and that the Syrians are prepared to restore an atmosphere of friendship between them and the United States, we see (Syrian Prime Minister) 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm threatening the United States in a statement made 2 days ago, calling for its expulsion from the Middle East region.

"The assignment of roles is clear to everybody in the official Syrian statements. This proves the existence of fabricated contradictions in the attitude of the Syrian politicians.

"Whatever the case may be and whatever 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam says, this will not change our stand. We demand an end to Syrian occupation so that Lebanon can regain its international status -- sovereign and independent."

Asked his opinion of former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's demand that the Saudi plan be merged with the Camp David agreements, Sham'un said: "I refuse to comment on Kissinger's statements because he has done more harm to Lebanon than any other politician in the world. It was his policy that brought Lebanon to its present situation."

ARAB-SOVIET SOCIETIES HOLD RALLY IN DAMASCUS

JN051000 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] The Syrian-Soviet and Palestinian-Soviet friendship societies hosted a speech rally at Al-Hamra' theater in Damascus yesterday evening in commemoration of the 64th anniversary of the socialist October Revolution in the friendly Soviet Union.

Comrade Ahmad Dargham, vice chairman of the Syrian-Soviet friendship society delivered a speech in which he asserted that the October Revolution constituted the first blow to the world's imperialist system, a historic turning point in the life of human society and opened new scope for the workers' revolution movement.

Comrade Dargham asserted that our Arab people's progressive course will not be defeated, adding that our Arab nation will not capitulate. He stressed that Syria -- which, under the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and its secretary general, comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, is a special target -- will not kneel but will continue the struggle against imperialism, Zionism and their tools both internally and externally.

Dr Dargham concluded: We are celebrating the October Revolution anniversary in order to entrench this revolution's values and deepen friendship between our people and the peoples of the Soviet Union, which supports our just struggle against imperialism and Zionism.

The Soviet ambassador in Damascus delivered a speech in which he affirmed the Soviet stand alongside the Arab nation in its struggle against imperialism and Zionism. He pointed out that the Soviet Union is sincerely concerned about establishing a just peace in the Middle East and is working to remove the vestiges of the Zionist aggression on the Arab nation.

He praised the signing of the Syrian-Soviet friendship and cooperation treaty, describing it as a strong base for giving new impetus to bilateral cooperation.

In conclusion, he called for bolstering Arab-Soviet friendship and cooperation.

Mr 'Arabi 'Awwad, member of the Executive Bureau of the Palestinian-Soviet friendship society, delivered a speech, in which he greeted Arab-Soviet friendship and the Syrian-Soviet friendship treaty, affirming that Arab Syria, the Palestinian revolution and the Arab nation's masses will neither kneel nor capitulate. Rather, he added, they will struggle with all determination and with the support of all the world's socialist and peace-loving forces, until victory and liberation are achieved.

FRONT OFFICIAL CONFERS WITH GDR'S BRASCH

JN051600 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1450 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] Damascus, 5 Nov (SANA) -- Comrade Mahmud al-Ayyubi, deputy chairman of the Progressive National Front, received here today the delegation of the GDR league for friendship among peoples under Horst Brasch, first vice president of the league, who is currently in Syria at the invitation of the Syrian-GDR friendship society. Comrade al-Ayybui briefed the delegation on developments in the Arab situation and on plots being hatched against Syria and the Arab nation. He also explained that these plots are directed against the freedom, independence and unity of the Arab nation.

Comrade al-Ayyubi alluded to relations between the fronts in the two friendly countries, stressing the importance of exerting additional efforts to promote these relations in the service of the Syrian and GDR peoples and of cooperation between the two friendly countries for the sake of progress, world peace and stability.

BEGIN DISCUSSES EUROPEAN ROLE IN SINAI FORCE

TA051749 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 5 Nov 81

[From Evening Newsreel]

[Text] If Lord Carrington continues to dispute the Camp David accords, Israel will not agree to a British unit's joining the Sinai multinational force, said Prime Minister Menahem Begin this evening at a festive ceremony launching Elat week events. He was speaking before local residents, guests and many tourists. Our correspondent Beni Rom gives a report on the prime minister's remarks.

[Begin recording] [Rom] Prime Minister Begin said: From Elat, from the Red Sea coast I am informing the European countries and Britain and its foreign minister, Lord Carrington, 2 months before the establishment of the multinational force in order to avoid misunderstanding:

[Begin] Do not provide us with any more supervisors; it is not the purpose you [the EEC] were established for. Neither the peace treaty, nor the Camp David accords, nor President Carter's letter, nor the special agreement on the multinational force even mention it at all. You have no right and no authority to add this expression, and do not mention the Venice resolution which the Knesset rejected as late as 3 November by a decisive majority of more than 100 Knesset members from both the coalition and the opposition through unity of heart and with full understanding among the parties. The people are united against this demand.

Therefore, we announce in advance, and let them know in London and in other capitals: If you wish to participate you are welcome, we have no objection. The multinational force should supervise the guarantees given us in connection with the peace treaty. These commitments, these guarantees, these security arrangements were created so that we could really live in peace, so that freedom of sailing will be guaranteed forever, for all generations to come, and so that another war does not break out in another 10 years and so that it would be impossible for people to tell us that we have a casus belli. What does casus belli mean? It means that it is legal for us to go to war, but we do not want war. It is time for the people of Israel to have peace in Eretz Yisra'el. [applause]

[Rom] Earlier, the prime minister briefly reviewed the history of Israel's wars conducted because of Elat's strategic location, which is so important, as Israel's outlet to the sea. The prime minister promised the residents of Elat and the large audience there that a Palestinian state will never be established in Judaea and Samaria. [end recording]

Our political correspondent, Shim'on Schiffer, adds that Israel has demanded that the United States make it clear to the Western European countries that their joining the multinational force would only be permitted on the basis of their recognition of the Camp David accords. Israel's appeal to the United States came against the backdrop of reports that had arrived in Jerusalem that some European countries are prepared to join the multinational force on the basis of the Venice declaration, not the Camp David accords.

Foreign Ministry Clarifies

TA052008 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Excerpt] The Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem has learned that some European countries prepared to participate in the Sinai multinational force intend to declare their opposition to the Camp David accords and thus soften the criticism voiced against them in the Arab world.

Our political correspondent, Elimelekh Ram, reports that the Foreign Ministry has already made it clear to those countries that Israel will object to their stationing of troops in the force, if they take this action. Israel fears that the European countries might try to exploit participation in the multinational force to take action in the spirit of the Venice declaration and the Saudi plan, neither of which is at all acceptable to Israel.

Begin On Oil Influence

TA060620 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 6 Nov 81

[Report on speech by Prime Minister Begin delivered at Elat's Larome Hotel 5 Nov]

[Text] Recently, Prime Minister Menahem Begin said -- turning to numerous visitors, including several hundred journalists and tourism entrepreneurs from abroad -- a myth has proliferated that Israel is, as it were, a country isolated in the world. This myth, the prime minister stressed, is groundless. Israel, he said, has today numerous friends the world over, more than in the past. The problem is, Prime Minister Menahem Begin says, that oil has a very strong influence.

[Begin Begin recording] Abu Dhabi has an influence on the United States of America, and Libya is paying for Soviet weapons supplied to Jordan, but Libya is also supplying oil to the United States of America. In other words, every American is sending dollars to the Soviet Union. The American people do not know this yet, and we shall have to open their eyes. This is a vicious circle: Jordan buys arms from Russia. Libya pays for the arms and sends the money to Russia. Libya sells oil to America. America is paying for it in dollars. So there is such a thing in the world, this phenomenon called oil and, hence, we have from time to time things to settle with various governments. Never mind, we shall manage. [end recording]

The prime minister added that tourism is important, since it constitutes an aid to information, fosters friendship and strengthens links among all those numerous enthusiastic supporters of Israel the world over.

ENERGY MINISTER URGES CAUTION IN REJECTING FAHD PLAN

TA060930 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 6 Nov 81 p 4 Weekend Supplement

[Arye Tzimuqi report in "Political Week" column]

[Text] Minister of Energy Yitzhaq Berman, who has recently returned from a mission to the United States, does not share Begin's unequivocal view of the extent of U.S. support for the Fahd plan. Instead he thinks the fears expressed in Israel are exaggerated and, in his opinion, the U.S. administration will not deviate too far from the Camp David agreements, nor will it give unequivocal support for the Fahd plan.

Berman believes the Senate vote on the AWACS matter proved that there are broad groups in the United States who are opposed to granting Saudi Arabia a preferential status because they have not yet forgotten events in Iran. They have also drawn conclusions from As-Sadat's assassination in Cairo. Berman also rejects the Fahd plan, but he thinks, as he has phrased it in the past, that we should exercise caution when rejecting the plan. In his view, consideration should be given to the view, expressed by some U.S. personalities, that clause 7 of the program which speaks about "stressing the right of countries in the area to live in peace," is in fact a recognition of Israel's right to exist as an independent state. U.S. personalities claim that this clause is taken from UN Security Council Resolution 242 and that it would be advisable to emphasize this positive side of the Saudi stand and so lead to moderating its positions.

In their view, there is nothing worse than pushing someone into a corner, making him stubborn or turning him into a rejectionist. They asked: "Where is the wisdom in saying that all the clauses in the Fahd plan are terrible?" Does clause 3, which speaks about "guaranteeing freedom of religious practice to all faiths in the [Jerusalem] holy shrines" contradict the Israeli position?

But Begin thinks that there is no other way but to reject the entire plan out of hand.

SHARON SAYS SAUDI ARABIA IS CONFRONTATION STATE

TA061109 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 6 Nov 81

[Text] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon has decided that in view of the supply of sophisticated U.S. arms to Saudi Arabia, this country should be regarded as a confrontation state. This is reported by our military correspondent, Shmu'el Tal. Saudi Arabia is transferring many tons of military equipment, including equipment it received from the United States, to the terrorists in Lebanon.

HA'ARETZ ON U.S. RELATIONS WITH SAUDIS

TA051547 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 5 Nov 81 p 7

[Avraham Schweitzer commentary: "A View From Washington"]

[Text] From an Israeli point of view it would seem that Saudi Arabia scored a success too soon in the United States. However, that view may be an optical illusion because the oil kingdom has been under U.S. patronage since the 1930's. The only thing new in relations between the two countries is the U.S. assessment that the Saudis have been enjoying a much too easy political life: Their wealth and unconditional U.S. patronage have spoiled them. Now, Washington maintains, the time has come for putting Saudi Arabia to some use. What seems to appear from the Israeli angle as an unconditional accommodation of Saudi Arabia in affairs pertaining to the Middle East, ought to be examined from a Washingtonian point of view as well.

An indubitable fact is that the United States and Saudi Arabia -- that is to say, the Ibn Sa'ud dynasty -- have a common interest in defending the oil treasures. The U.S. strategic plan, which seeks to check the Soviet advance toward the Persian Gulf, imposes, for the first time, a burden on the Saudis: Within the framework of that plan, their country becomes an area of deployment, at least in terms of a regional control system (for the time being, it seems, no stationing of U.S. troops there is being contemplated). Moreover, it is requested to do something never requested in the past: (To put it delicately) to share in political activity coordinated with the United States. In the settlement, albeit temporary, of two Lebanese crises during the summer, the United States urged the Saudis to perform a mission among the Arabs, while with Israel the United States spoke directly -- and in a down-to-earth way.

It appears that from the point of view of Washington policy makers, the AWACS constitutes a prize granted to the prestige-seeking Saudi dynasty, in accordance with the customary stick-and-carrot doctrine of the administration. By the same token, the other side of the U.S. policy, that directed at Israel, is being reflected: Israel at the moment is not serving any immediately discernible U.S. interest. The error of Begin, Sharon and many others in Israel, lies in their applying themselves to the war-like aspect of the U.S. strategic deployment too seriously. The United States does not seriously plan to go to war with the Soviets either in Europe or in the Persian Gulf, but merely establish deterrent deployments which are political in their nature and military in their appearance. That's why Mr Sharon's proposals raise only a mild interest in Washington today, whereas much enthusiasm is raised by the bared teeth of the desert kingdoms which, as everyone knows, do not bite but make a political impression on the surrounding world.

What happens to Israel now is a logical consequence of American success in the Persian Gulf. In the 1960's we were alone at the side of the Americans; in the 1970's, Egypt came along also and Israel's weight went down accordingly, by one half. Now, with the cooperation of Saudi Arabia as an active (or perhaps it should be said, activated) U.S. partner, a further erosion has ensued.

The present Israeli leadership's mistake was not to recognize the seriousness of an increasingly single-faceted [had-tzivyoni] Middle East (or it may have been blinded by its steadfast anti-Soviet ideology) as well as to continue its greater Israel policy which invites Arab pressure exerted via the United States.

This refers particularly to actions regarding the Palestinians. The Begin-Sharon-Gush Emunim inspired settlement policy is gradually closing all options for a partitioning of the country, foiling the hopes of Arabs in the territories who do not want Israeli rule. The attempt to meet them halfway by the realization of an autonomy, which holds this option open, proved to be an utter failure and only the fools among us believe that the Arabs do not understand what is happening in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. Saudi Arabia is merely responding to the outcry emanating from the Arab Eretz Yisra'el [as published] and is doing so in the manner of the late As-Sadat. It is going hand-in-hand with the United States and reaping an additional benefit, that of defending an Arab interest -- Fahd's eight points.

From the tactical aspect, Mr Rabin is right: His demand to return the handling of the problem of the Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el to an Egyptian-Israeli framework is appropriate, including what he calls the implementation of the Israeli positions regarding the autonomy. It is a fact that the United States supports such a move. But these are only tactics, even if there were a chance that Mr Begin and his Likud partners would heed Rabin's advice. Israel's strategy has to be fashioned in accordance with developments in the region, especially in view of the application of U.S.-Arab relations to the requirements of an anti-Soviet deployment that is military in its form and political in its content. Washington would be hard put, even if it wanted, to abandon Israel. Such an act would not conform to its status and its internal constraints. But Washington desires a low-profile Israel, less bombastic as it is under Begin and less operationally militaristic as it is under Sharon. It may not be too late, so it seems, to lower the profile somewhat, by a less aggressive policy in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza.

The other element of Israel's strategy fitting our requirements must be a recognition of the risk stemming from a total Americanization of the region. If the United States also succeeded in drawing to its side Syria and Iraq, our situation would become particularly difficult. As U.S. administrations tend to be temporary, for a period of from 4 to 8 years, their policymakers are eager for short-range accomplishments, not taking into account difficulties likely to emerge after the few years of their rule. Hence, without taking too much into consideration Israel's long-range stabilizing influence, the U.S. administrations are liable to give preference to the pressing needs of their Arab partners and the greater their number and their weight the greater the desire to get rid of those who are a nuisance, at the expense of Israel (and at the expense of the long-range needs of the United States).

There is no absence in the United States of a theoretical understanding of the Middle East reality, or of the fact that to build a policy on the Arab countries is tantamount to a building on sand dunes. But there is always a hope that the avalanche will occur during the term of the next administration. And, even if it occurs sooner, the United States will always posess the power for a remedy. Political mythology maintains that the Soviets build their policy like a chess player, with painstaking planning and a gradual buildup of positions and moves. The Americans are like rugby players: Little thinking is required but a lot of speed and muscle and the game lasts for only 60 minutes. That hour must be exploited with a maximum application of force -- and the next rival will be dealt with in another game.

This is not a good time for Israel. Anyone who was in the United States during the AWACS week will testify to that. One can, of course, spill tears over this and talk of a Saudi plan of annihilation. But one could also review the Israeli mistakes and numerous missed opportunities, and conduct a well thought out policy with a minimum of emotions and wave-making, which, to counter brute force, requires wisdom and shrewdness. We created the model for such a policy before and during the establishment of the state. And, even though the quality of leadership has become much lower since then, the model still exists and one may attempt to reapply it. That direction gives rise to hope. That cannot be said of the mannerisms of the present rulers, which combine the acts of a superpower with bouts of weeping. Thus, in any event, it appears to be the view from Washington.

MA'ARIV ON ARENS' CANDIDACY AS AMBASSADOR

TA051601 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 5 Nov 81 p 2

[Report by Ilan Kfir]

[Text] Prof Moshe Arens' candidacy for the post of Israeli ambassador to Washington is designed to show that Israel intends to harden its line toward the United States. A senior political source in Jerusalem said yesterday that the turn in U.S. policy in the region requires Israel to adopt a firm political line, and that Arens was the right man in the right place in the right time.

Arens has not yet responded to the proposal, made to him by Prime Minister Menahem Begin and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, to assume the post of ambassador to Washington. In conversations with close associates, Arens said he was hesitant, and that it is a difficult decision.

The intention to appoint Arens as ambassador to Washington was sharply criticized by diplomatic circles in Israel and the United States, which expressed the fear that Arens' rigidity, as expressed in his opposition to the Camp David accords, will make him fail at his post.

In reaction to this criticism a senior diplomatic source in Jerusalem remarked that Arens' opposition to the Camp David agreements did not disqualify him for the position of Israeli ambassador to Washington and that at a time when there are second thoughts in the United States on the Camp David agreement, it should be made clear to Washington that Jerusalem too may have second thoughts.

The opponents of Arens' appointment, among them Israeli foreign service officials, argue that his hawkish opinions might lead Israel into direct confrontation with the U.S. administration at a time when Israel should strive toward deeper understanding and safeguarding Israeli interests. They contend that as a result of his meetings with U.S. administration leaders and senior representatives of the media, Arens created for himself representatives of the media, Arens created for himself an image of rigidity, not becoming to a diplomat.

They also say that with Arens' assumption of the post, the Israeli Embassy in the United States will be headed by three representatives of the Herut movement: the ambassador, Counselor Ya'aqov Nahshon and information adviser Arye Horowitz. In their opinion, it will be difficult for the Israeli Embassy in Washington to function properly without a professional diplomat.

Prime Minister Menahem Begin and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir expect an answer from Arens before officially notifying Washington of his candidacy.

Begin and Shamir meanwhile are in agreement that Arens is the best candidate the government and the Likud could choose for this position and that he will loyally serve the government and its policy.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT Report

TA060940 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 6 Nov 81 p 4 Weekend Supplement

[Arye Tzimuqi report in "Political Week" column]

[Text] One move intended to illustrate Israel's dissatisfaction with U.S. policy is the replacement of the ambassador to Washington, Efrayim 'Evron, by Knesset Member Moshe Arens.

Back in July Ambassador 'Evron submitted his letter of resignation to Begin, in which he asked to be permitted to resign at the end of 3 years of service in Washington and at the end of 33 years in the service of the state. Begin asked him then to continue in his post and he responded to this appeal.

In September Efrayim 'Evron again asked Foreign Minister Shamir to permit him to resign and it was then agreed that his request would be discussed during his visit to Israel this month on home leave.

At his last meeting with Begin, 'Evron was told that it had been agreed to appoint Moshe Arens as his replacement. It appears that Begin and Shamir have decided to appoint Arens in order to signal the Americans the firmness of their decision to take a more aggressive political line toward the administration. Arens is known as an avowed "hawk" and voted against the Camp David agreements.

In a talk with U.S. Embassy personnel in Israel, Shamir explained the appointments background. He hinted to the Americans that Ambassador 'Evron had behaved in a gentlemanly, moderate way toward the administration, while Arens would demonstrate a different, more aggressive approach.

Arens will also head the joint Alignment-Likud parliamentary delegation which will set out for the United States next week. Nobody is under the illusion that the joint delegation will work miracles in the field of publicity, because world media are giving wide coverage to the broad spectrum of views being expressed in Israel. Sending the delegation is mainly a demonstrative move; its publicity effectiveness is doubtful.

MAPAM REJECTS DELEGATION COMPOSITION PLANS

TA051224 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] MAPAM rejects a joint government-opposition delegation's going to the United States to explain Israel's opposition to the Saudi Arabian plan. The decision by the MAPAM center says that it is true the party rejects the Saudi Arabian plan, but, in its view, a joint delegation would blur the basic differences of opinion between the Alignment and the Likud over foreign affairs and security policy.

JERUSALEM CITES ALLEN ON AWACS TO SAUDI ARABIA

JN051330 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 0930 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] Richard Allen, U.S. adviser for national security affairs, has stated that supplying Saudi Arabia with AWACS planes will serve Israel's security interests in the long run and will not affect the U.S.-Israeli relations.

Speaking to the Haifa University friends society in New York last night, Allen said supplying Saudi Arabia with air defense equipment aims at stopping any Soviet aggression against the Middle East region.

On the peace process, he said Israel and Egypt have made progress in negotiations on autonomous rule for the Palestinians. He added that the U.S. administration hopes for an agreement to be reached in this regard in the next few months.

JERUSALEM ARABIC ON U.S. INVITATION TO SHARON

JN051047 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 5 Nov 81

[From the press review]

[Text] Discussing the invitation to the defense minister to visit Washington, HAMODI'A says: U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger's invitation to Sharon to visit the United States to discuss the issue of strategic bilateral cooperation came as a surprise when the prime minister's political statement to the Knesset last Monday was being discussed.

The paper points out that this invitation has special political significance, since it shows that the U.S. administration has sensed that it has gone beyond accepted limits in statements and intimations that harmed Israel and that duty behooves it to listen to the contents of the prime minister's political statement.

It adds: Perhaps these reasons led the United States to invite the defense minister to visit Washington to discuss issues agreed on during the prime minister's visit to the United States. Washington has realized that it must quickly reassure Israel before Israel finds itself compelled to use its efforts against targets that are hostile to it, particularly following the approval of the arms deal to Saudi Arabia, an approval which has embittered Israel's friends in the United States.

In conclusion, the paper expresses the hope that Sharon's talks in the United States will result in promoting the two countries' joint interests and simultaneously end the U.S. administration's enthusiasm with regard to reaching agreements with Arab states at the expense of Israel's security and strategic interests.

DIFFICULTIES EMERGE IN NORMALIZATION TALKS

TA051217 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 5 Nov 81

[From the Midday Newsreel]

[Text] Difficulties and differences of opinion, before the signing of normalization agreements by the flight and transportation committees, are arising in talks being held in Egypt. Apparently the agreement scheduled to be signed today will be postponed. The Egyptians have retreated from several points they had already agreed on, such as the issue of arrangements for visas to Sinai. Our correspondent, Eli'ezer Pney-Gil, reports.

The signing of the air flight agreement between Israel and Egypt that was to have been signed this afternoon will apparently be postponed because of differences of opinion. The Egyptians are sticking to their position that the arrangement for direct flights to St Catherine's must be restricted to a period of just 2 years, while Israel is not prepared to accept this position. The head of the Israeli delegation to the talks -- the director-general of the Ministry of Transport, Arye Grozbord -- told me less than an hour ago in a call from Cairo that this morning the Egyptians showed a further hardening in their positions and this also applied to questions where there had already been complete agreement. The matter of the entry visas, for example, is still being disputed. The Egyptians are demanding that tourists who want to tour Sinai for a period of more than 3 days will, have to acquire entry visas in advance. The Egyptians are also refusing to permit tourists who reach Sinai by sea, to land on the shores. These tourists, it is true, will acquire entry visas in advance, but even though they have such visas, they will not be allowed to land on the shores.

The head of the Israeli delegation says that the Egyptians are in fact deviating from the principles previously agreed upon in the 'Ali-Sharon talks and also from the promises given to Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir. The field in which there has been a certain progress is in the transport talks, in which the possibility was discussed of permitting free passage for Israeli trucks from Tel Aviv to other destinations in Egypt, not only to Cairo and Alexandria. Even if the agreement is not signed today, the Israeli delegation will return to Israel this evening.

GOLAN DRUZE PREVENTED FROM ATTENDING CLASSES

TA051616 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1450 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] Golan Heights, 5 Nov -- IDF roadblocks this morning prevented hundreds of northern Galilee Druze high school students from entering the village of Mas'adah, where the local high school is located.

The students, who returned to their home villages, voiced nationalist appeals. The ITIM correspondent notes that school operations have been disrupted for 3 days following the refusal of the students to participate in Hebrew classes, claiming that the Hebrew teacher, an Israeli Druze, was hurting their pride.

They also objected to studying in Hebrew subjects related to the history of Israel.

At this stage things reached a violent stage and only janitors remain in the school, which was closed by order of the Military Government. The army prevented reporters from entering villages on the Golan Heights and erected roadblocks.

Bethlehem Disturbances

TA061112 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 6 Nov 81

[Text] There were demonstrations and disturbances at Bethlehem University this morning and no classes were held. Our correspondent, Arye Gus, reports that Bethlehem University students set tires afire, waved flags and shouted nationalistic slogans. The army has closed off the university area.

EXPULSION OF WEST BANK PERSONAGES REVIEWED

TA051708 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] Former Ramallah Mayor Nadi (Zaru) is to return home tomorrow morning, after the expulsion order against him had been revoked. Our correspondent, Pinhas 'Inbari, has learned that the defense establishment is now looking into the possibility of allowing additional deportees to return. This is in accord with a request to the defense minister by Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali.

The possibility of allowing the mayors of Hebron and Halhul to return was examined, but it was ruled out as was a proposal to allow the return of former east Jerusalem Mayor Ruhi al-Khatib and the chairman of the supreme muslim council, Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid (as-Sayyigh).

On the other hand, the request to permit the Jordanian senator from Jerusalem, Anton 'Atallah, to return is being considered. He left for Amman 10 years ago to promote the opening of an Arab bank in the territories. While in Amman he pledged allegiance to King Husayn and that prompted the Military Government to forbid him to return. He has been in exile in Jordan ever since.

West Bank Mayor Returns

TA060932 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 6 Nov 81

[Text] Former mayor of Ramallah, Nadim Zaru, arrived a short while ago at the Allenby Bridge and is now en route to his home town. He was received at the bridge by some 100 people. Our correspondent, Arye Gus, reports that Zaru said he does not intend to deal in politics, even though he was not requested to make any promises. He nevertheless called on the authorities to return all the personalities that had been expelled, including mayors Fahd Qawasimi and Muhammad Milhim. Ramallah is preparing a big reception for Nadim Zaru.

MA'ARIV: UK CANCELS MEETING WITH EHRLICH

TA051438 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 5 Nov 81 p 1

[Report by Aharon Pri'el]

[Excerpt] The British Government has unexpectedly canceled a meeting set for Deputy Prime Minister and Agriculture Minister Simha Ehrlich with his British counterpart in London.

Agriculture Ministry sources said yesterday that the cancellation may constitute an expression of the policy of getting closer to the Arabs, which London has recently been demonstrating.

JORDAN REPORTEDLY TO BUY SOVIET MISSILES

JN051317 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 0930 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] U.S. television network CBS has reported that King Husayn has decided to buy modern Soviet-made surface-to-air missiles. However, the Jordanian king's spokesman declined to comment on this news.

U.S. officials expressed grave concern over Jordan's possible purchase of Soviet-made weapons. U.S. Defense Department sources said earlier that the U.S. administration is studying the possibility of supplying Jordan with sophisticated surface-to-air Hawk missiles as part of an arms deal worth $800 million.

MAJOR HADDAD RESIGNS, BARAKAT REPLACEMENT

TA061243 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1240 GMT 6 Nov 81

[Text] Metulla, 6 Nov -- Maj Sa'd Haddad, commander of the militias in Southern Lebanon, announced at 1300 in a direct transmission over the Voice of Hope radio station in southern Lebanon that he is resigning his post.

He also said he would be replaced by Lt (Sharbal) Barakat. Major Haddad thanked the State of Israel and the Israeli people for their help and called on his officers to remain at their posts and fulfill their duties.

Move to Revoke Decision

TA061407 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 6 Nov 81

[Excerpt] Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that Israeli elements were apparently surprised by Haddad's resignation and are now trying to convince him to revoke it and resume his post.

ALGERIA

PRESIDENT, PLO'S 'ARAFAT EXCHANGE VIEWS

LD052334 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] PLO Executive Committee President Yasir 'Arafat, who arrived yesterday in Algiers, was received this afternoon by President Chadli Bendjedid with whom he had an exchange of views which 'Arafat described as "indispensible."

'Arafat indicated that his talks with President Chadli Bendjedid dealt with the difficult stage which the Arab nation is experiencing, the Palestinian question, the concentration of Israeli troops in the northern part of occupied Palestine and the popular uprising in the occupied lands.

'Arafat stressed that President Chadli Bendjedid had reiterated Algeria's firm stand in support of the struggle waged by the Palestinian people for the recovery of their legitimate rights, including the right to self-determination and to establish their own state.

The Palestinian leader also indicated that his talks with President Chedli also dealt with the results of his latest visit to China, Japan, Vietnam, the DPRK and the Soviet Union. 'Arafat said his visits had been fruitful on a political and diplomatic plane. He also recalled the recent decision by the Soviet Union to grant the status of diplomatic representation to the PLO Bureau.

Speaking about the forthcoming Arab summit which is to be held in Fes, 'Arafat indicated that the main thing is to emerge from this summit with a united and solidarity stand to be able to face the imperialist-Zionist danger which [words indistinct] notably in light of the strategic alliance between Washington and Tel Aviv.

SOVIET DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER DEPARTS 4 NOV

LD051756 Algiers APS in Arabic 1400 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Excerpts] Algiers, 5 Nov (APS) -- Marshal Pavel Stepanovich Kutakhov, commander in chief of the air force and Soviet deputy defense minister, left Algiers yesterday at the end of his official visit to Algeria, which lasted several days.

During his stay, Kutakhov was received by Col Mustafa Bin Lucif, member of the central committee and secretary general of the National Defense Ministry.

During its visit to Algeria, the military delegation visited the advanced aviation school at Tafrawi, Oran.

LIBYA

PLO LEADER MAKES STOPOVER IN TRIPOLI

LD061108 Tripoli JANA in English 0819 GMT 6 Nov 81

[Text] Tripoli, 6 Nov (JANA) -- Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, and Brigadier Sa'd Sayil (Abu al-Walid), Central Committee member of the Palestine Liberation Movement (Fatah), last night stopped over at Tripoli international airport.

Yasir 'Arafat made a statement to our correspondent in which he said "We must recognize that we are facing an imperialist-Zionist onslaught on the Arab region, particularly after the announcement of the Zionist-imperialist alliance.

He added, "We must take into account the Zionist concentrations in the south where terrorist Begin said a war would break out against the Palestinian revolution, the Lebanese national movement and Syria, this, in addition to manoeuvres being conducted by the Rapid Deployment Force, American naval units in Bahrain and the Mediterranean and forces from Egypt, Sudan, Somalia and Oman. These manoeuvres pose a direct and serious threat to the Arab nation and are a practical manifestation of America's declaration of a strategic alliance between itself and Zionism. This alliance does not only influence the present generations but all future generations as well.

I am now touring the Arab region before the Fes summit in order to adopt a united Arab stand in confronting the challenges facing the Arab nation."

LIBYA, ROMANIA SIGN COOPERATION AGREEMENT

LD051728 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] Tripoli, 5 Nov (JANA) -- A cooperation agreement was signed in Tripoli this morning between the Socialist Peoples Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah [SPLAJ] and Romania. It provides for cooperation in construction and also participation by Romanian companies in the implementation of some of the Jamahiriyah's transformation plan projects. The agreement was signed for the SPLAJ by the secretary of the General People's Committee for Housing and for Romania by the minister state secretary in the Ministry of Individual Construction, Ion Stanescu.

LIAISON SECRETARY RECEIVES POLISARIO OFFICIAL

LD012054 Tripoli JANA in English 1908 GMT 1 Nov 81

[Text] Tripoli, 1 Nov (JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY) -- The People's Committee secretary at the external liaison bureau this morning conferred with Sid Ahmed El Batal, member of the Polisario Front Executive Committee and member of the Saharan Republic's Revolutionary Command Council. Discussions centered on recent developments in the Western Sahara issue.

MAURITANIA

HAYDALA COMMENTS ON MOROCCO, FRANCE, SENEGAL

AB052005 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Interview with Mauritanian President Lt Col Khouna Ould Haydala by the press on 5 November in Paris -- recorded]

[Text] [Haydala] I believe that the accusations levelled by Morocco against Mauritania are due to a permanent and deliberate desire to involve our country in this Saharan conflict from which we have finally withdrawn. Morocco's hostility toward our country is very old. It is, therefore, not surprising that this country, our brother and neighbor, seizes every possible opportunity to try to intimidate us. We are determined to have the best relations of friendship and good neighborliness with all countries and people in the region. However, we will not allow our country to be used as a trampoline for the policies of anyone. But, in spite of all that, if we are attacked at our 1960 borders, we will defend ourselves.

[Question] In recent days, Moroccan reports have been referring to the At-Ta'if spirit. Can you tell us what was decided at At-Ta'if when you met with the King of Morocco and what significance do you accord to this At-Ta'if spirit?

[Answer] The At-Ta'if agreement, like other agreements, was the expression of a freely reasserted political desire. On our part, this desire has always existed and still exists because it is the historical cornerstone of our entire policy. That is to say, we did not wait for the At-Ta'if agreement to observe flawlessly both the spirit and the policy of good neighborliness, mutual understanding and noninterference, which constitute the core of this agreement. It was, therefore, Morocco's duty to conform with this promise made before his majesty, the respectable King Khalid of Saudi Arabia.

Unfortunately, we have just learned from experience that the Moroccan activities are far from being inspired by the same desire, that is, to apply all the terms of this agreement, since in spite of our initiative to convene a meeting at the foreign minister level in July 1981 in Paris [as heard].

[Question] Mr President, let's discuss France now. The day before yesterday, you had your first meeting with the new French Government, the Socialist government. You were received by President Francois Mitterrand. What are the conclusions to be drawn from this first meeting?

[Answer] Yes, I have just held talks with President Mitterrand. These talks were on bilateral relations and issues concerning our subregion and Africa. That is to say, Mauritania has always had traditional, trusting and solid relations with France in all fields. Although there was some coldness between the former regime and us, that now belongs to the past. In our discussion of world and African issues such as Namibia, the Western Saharan peoples' right to self-determination, the recent OAU summit, North-South dialogue, the new French policy on Africa and on North-South dialogue, we shared similar views. I am convinced that bilateral relations between Mauritania and France will soon take a new turn.

[Question] Mr President, this is the last question. Among the heads of state whom you visited, we noticed in particular the visit of Senegalese President Abdou Diouf. Senegal is Mauritania's neighbor. In regard to your meeting with President Abdou Diouf, some say that cooperation between Mauritania and Senegal is on a sound footing.

[Answer] Our relations with Senegal are more than excellent. My brother President Abdou Diouf and I hold regular meetings on all current problems and I would add that all cooperation between Mauritania and Senegal is excellent.

TAYA, PRC DEPUTY MINISTER DISCUSS COOPERATION

AB051014 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] Prime Minister and Defense Minister Col Maayouia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya yesterday afternoon received in audience the Chinese deputy minister for cooperation with foreign countries [title as heard]. The two men had a long discussion on Chinese-Mauritanian cooperation. In a statement to the Mauritanian news agency, the Chinese deputy minister stated that he exchanged views with his host on economic and technical cooperation between the Socialist Republic of Mauritania and the People's Republic of China. The prime minister, he added, was optimistic about the development of relations between our two countries.

MOROCCO

KING HASSAN RECEIVES MEMBERS OF NEW CABINET

LD060035 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] King Hassan II this evening received at the royal palace at Ifran members of the new Cabinet led by Prime Minister Maati Bouabid in the presence of Crown Prince Sayidi Mohamed.

The following are the names of members of the new Cabinet which consists of 32 ministers and state secretaries. We will read them with no regard to protocol order:

Prime minister	Maati Bouabid
Minister of state in charge of foreign affairs	M'hamed Boucetta
Minister of state in charge of cooperation	Mahjoubi Aherdan
Minister of state	Hadj M'hamed Bahnini
Minister of state	Moulay Ahmed Alaoui
Minister of vocations and cadres	M'hamed Douiri
Minister of Interior	Driss Basri
Minister of national education	Dr Azzedine Laraki
Minister of labor and national revival	Mohamed Arsalane El Jadidi
Minister of traditional industries and social affairs	Abbas El Fassi
Minister of transportation	Mansouri Benali
Minister of health	Dr Rahal Rahhali
Minister of energy	Moussa Saadi
Minister of commerce, industry and tourism	Azzedine Guessous
Minister of information, youth and sports	Dr Abdelwahad Belkeziz
Minister of finance	Abdellatif Jouahri
Minister of maritime fishing	Salim El Souwayli
Secretary general of government	Abbas El Kissi
Minister of culture	Dr Said Belbachir
Minister of justice	Moulay Moustapha Belarbi Alaoui
Minister of religious endowments and Islamic affairs	Hachmi Filali
Minister to the prime minister's office	Abdelkarim Ghallab
Minister of relations with parliament	Ahmed Belhaj
Minister of housing, development and environment	Lamfadel Lahlow
Minister of supplies	Mohamed Kabgaj
Minister of posts	Mohamed El Ansar
Minister of agriculture	Othman Demnati
Secretary of state for foreign affairs	Abdelhaq Tazi
Secretary of state for Saharan affairs	Khali Hanna Ould Rachid
Secretary of state for administrative affairs	Mohamed Tougani
Secretary of state for youth and sports	Abdellatif Semlal
Secretary of state for housing and development	Abdellatif Hajjaji

After the king shook hands with each and every minister, he addressed the new Cabinet:

[Begin recording] Prime Minister, honorable ministers, the new government which we have approved today has been formed at a time which I will not describe as critical or grave because such words have become commonplace. But I will say that it was formed at a somewhat particular juncture in the history of Morocco. This is because Morocco is encountering two tests: The first concerns its geographical and political destiny, that is, the completion of its territorial integrity once and for all externally and at the level of international organizations. The second is that Morocco is approaching the renewal of its elected councils. This should be marked by seriousness, honesty and clear national choices so that our future will be guaranteed by rights, justice and democracy. This democracy has won us enemies in addition to our traditional enemies, as you are aware.

Morocco's experience in Africa is truly one of struggle to continue the experiment, to uphold faith in freedom, to offer sacrifice and to bring up the rising generations in a manner that will make them respect the will of the community. All these will not allow some leaders to sleep in peace or some political bodies to live in peace, without viewing Morocco as the democratic constitutional troublemaker in Africa.

For this reason, we expect from our new government a twofold political action: one political and territorial, which is the completion of territorial unity; and the second, the establishment of democracy through working henceforth to enlighten and prepare the young people who have not participated in recent elections to do so consciously, knowing their duties and obligations.

The Moroccans who are hearing and watching me may ask why the National Assembly of Independents from among all the political organizations is not represented in the government. I say to them that the National Assembly of Independents consists of a group of dutiful patriotic and faithful Moroccans. But I left them out of the government because I am preparing them to assume an extremely important task badly needed by democracy in Morocco. The matter will soon become clear.

Pray to God almighty today, the eve of the green march, to endow you with patience, integrity of mind, political solidarity and human endurance, all of which are characteristics without which no human action can succeed no matter how capable, bold and dedicated those performing it might be. May God help you and guide your steps. May he lead you to success. God's peace and mercy be with you. [end recording]

SUDAN

INFORMATION MINISTER DESCRIBES DOMESTIC SITUATION

PM051503 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 1 Nov 81 p 2

[Husan al-Luqays report]

[Text] London -- What is happening in Sudan? Is it true that Libya is preparing to attack? Is there great political significance in President Numayri's participation in the Egyptian presidential elections? Are there Egyptian or foreign forces or bases in Sudan? Is it true that the Khartoum authorities have allowed an Israeli newspaper entry to cover recent events?

Sudanese Culture and Information Minister Dr Isma'il al-Hajj Musa has replied to these questions in an exclusive interview which he gave to ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT.

The Sudanese minister said: I cannot say, nor can any objective person, that Sudan is experiencing an acute political crisis that made it fabricate the threat against it. I can say that there are economic difficulties for local, regional and international reasons. What I want to say is, that there is a real threat and that we have not fabricated this threat to win any sympathy or to solicit any aid. In 1976, we were subjected to a real attack and invasion. On 2 June of this year, we found the capital teaming with mercenaries and many innocent people fell victim to them. We have no wish to be bitten twice by the same elements. We have proof and evidence that there is a real danger. This danger is represented by the Libyan concentrations on our western border. The bases and the airports which Libya is establishing in Chad pose a danger to us.

Replying to a question on the number of political detainees in Sudan from 1971 to the present, Minister Isma'il said: I cannot give the number of those who have been taken into custody -- I do not want to say "put into detention." I cannot say that they have been taken into custody for political reasons but for economic and social ressons. The purpose of holding them in custody is to bring about discipline in the streets and in government departments. He added: I can say that from 1971 until now, many incidents have taken place in Sudan. A number of those seeking power have interfered with the regime and made many attempts, including the 1976 invasion and the military attempt which came to be known as the 1976 Hasan Husayn coup. All these incidents have certainly led to some arrests and some persons' being taken into custody or interrogated."

Those found guilty have been sentenced. Since 1977 and in the wake of the national conciliation engineered by President Numayri, all political detainees have actually been released. Certain circumstances might have followed that have led to some persons being taken into custody for their incrimination in subversive activities.

As for the political significance of President Numayri's participation in the Egyptian presidential elections, the Sudanese minister said: The relationship between Sudan and Egypt is not a relationship between governments but a relationship between two people. It is an ancient, deep-rooted and strong relationship. When the Camp David agreement was concluded, for example, we were the first state in the Arab world to issue a detailed statement explaining our stand on the agreement. We said that we had clear reservations because the agreement had disregarded fundamental and basic matters and that certain things had been ignored and other things had been rendered ambiguous. We differed with the Arabs not because we approved of Camp David. We did not approve of Camp David but we said there are objective cultural, geographical and historical circumstances which, on the whole, prompt us not to sever our relations with Egypt.

Step to Peace

When Amir Fahd's initiative was made, we approved and backed it because it could be a step toward a just peace, especially since it has obtained the blessing of some quarters and some leaders in the PLO who are concerned with the matter.

Replying to a question on Egyptian and foreign forces and bases in Sudan, Dr Isma'il said: We have experts and technicians from all the states from which we have bought arms. We have Egyptians, British and Chinese, but their numbers are small and their task is only to give training in the use and maintenance of these arms. But there is not a single Egyptian or American soldier in Sudan. There is also no truth in what is being said about the presence of American bases and military installations in Sudan.

The Sudanese information minister also denied newspaper and news agency reports on the presence of an Israeli newspaper in Sudan. He said: I would like to say that this report is completely untrue. I have read and heard about the report. We have not normalized our relations with Israel and we have not recognized it. We still regard ourselves in a state of war with it because we are still part of the Arab League.

SOMALIA

MINISTER TOURS GULF SEEKING HELP AGAINST PACT

PM040945 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 2 Nov 81 P 2

[ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT Gulf Bureau report]

[Text] ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned that Somali Foreign Minister Abdurahman Jama Barre's current tour of the Gulf states is to explain his country's attitude toward the tripartite agreement among South Yeman, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Ethiopia, to emphasize that Somalia is the Soviet's next morsel in the Horn of Africa and to ask for aid and support for Somalia.

Foreign Minister Barre said in an exclusive statement to ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that Somalia believes that this tripartite agreement constitutes a dangerous alliance serving Soviet interests and consolidating Soviet influence in the area.

The Somali foreign minister said his country regards this agreement as a prelude to the creation of major new problems threatening peace in the area. He called on the area's states to adopt unified stands to check the dangers of this agreements, as he puts it, and to put an end to the Soviet (?presence) which is consolidated by the Aden agreement.

Barre arrived in Muscat yesterday. He will meet with Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id to give him, as he has given the Gulf leaders, a message from Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre, relating to the current situation in the Horn of Africa.

SOMALI, DJIBOUTI PARLIAMENTS SIGN JOINT COMMUNIQUE

EA051812 Mogadishu International Service in English 1100 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] A communique jointly issued by the Somali Democratic Peoples Assembly and the parliament of the Republic of Djibouti delcared that the recent talks between the leaders of the two parliaments proceeded in a friendly atmosphere and that the two sides had identical views on all issues discussed.

The communique stated that the two sides had discussed consolidating world peace, in the Horn of Africa in particular, which affects both countries. The two parliaments expressed their satisfaction at the excellent relations existing between the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] and the Republic of Djibouti and pledged to commit themselves to the realization of further economic, cultural and political cooperation between the two countries as manifested in the cooperation and friendship agreement signed by Presidents Muhamed Siad Barre and Hassan Gouled Aptidon in April 1981.

The heads of the two parliaments agreed to arrange for exchange visits by parliamentary delegations in the future. Mr. ('Abd al-Qadir Waberi Askar), speaker of the Djibouti parliament expressed his thanks for the warm welcome accorded him and members of his delegation during their stay in Somalia and extended an invitation to the SDR People's Assembly chairman, Challe (Mohamed Ibrahim Ahmad), to visit the Republic of Djibouti, which the latter gladly accepted.

The parliamentary delegation from the Republic of Djibouti led by the speaker of the parliament. Mr ('Abd al-Qadir Waberi Askar), yesterday left the regional capital of northern western region, Hargeisa, for their country. The delegation was seen off at Hargeisa airport by the assistant minister for ports and marine transport, Challe (Jama Gas Maawiye) Challe ('Abd as-Salam Hasan Mahmud), who is a member of the SDR's People's Assembly permanent committee and regional officials.

CLANDESTINE RADIO REPORTS ON OCTOBER CLASHES

17 Oct Fighting

EA272036 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somali and Abo Liberation Fronts in Somali to Western Somalia 0930 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Text] The heroic Western Somali Liberation Front [WSLF] freedom fighters engaged the Abyssinian black colonialist soldiers in bitter fighting on 17 October at (Sarar), in (Jinisanay) district of Jijiga region.

They killed 10 Abyssinian soldiers and wounded 17 others and destroyed a large quantity of equipment. The WSLF freedom fighters also captured five AK rifles in the clashes.

The WSLF lost three fighters in the battle.

CLANDESTINE RADIO REPORTS ON CLASHES 21 OCT

21 Oct Conflict

EA041506 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somali and Abo Liberation Fronts in Somali to Western Somalia 0930 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] The heroic Somali Abo Liberation Front [SALF] freedom fighters and the Abyssinian black colonialist soldiers engaged in fighting at (Aboso) in (Yirga Alem) region. In the clashes, 26 Abyssinian soldiers were killed and many others wounded.

In another clash, the heroic SALF freedom fighters killed 25 Abyssinian soldiers on 21 October at (Arbagona) in (Yayi) district, Sidamo region. The heroic SALF returned to base after the clashes.

CAMEROON

AHIDJO EMPHASIZES AGRICULTURE IN FIFTH PLAN

AB042018 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1830 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] President Ahidjo has been taking stock of agriculture as the key sector of our economy and he has revealed that the fifth plan will focus on seven main objectives. Presenting the plan to the National Assembly today, the head of state said agriculture enjoys over 70 percent of the working population in the country and has maintained a share of about 30 percent in our gross domestic product.

He said as a strategic sector by itself, it enables the nation to improve the prospects of its self-sufficiency in food while procuring about 70 percent of its foreign exchange. President Ahidjo noted that while on the eve of independence, agriculture was, above all, agreed toward the development of cash crops, we have, since the launching of the green revolution, implemented a certain number of programs aimed at increasing food production. The president announced that the implementation of our strategy of agricultural development will focus on seven main objectives. These will include the establishment of a new type of relations between the administration and the farmers and the setting-up of integrated structures responsible for the development of each agricultural zone.

The fifth plan will also focus on the improvement of living conditions in rural areas, the definition of an agricultural price policy -- not only with respect to the interest of the national community but also and above all as a means of increasing the farmers' income. The head of state said focus will also be held on the generalization and intensification of training for field staff working in rural areas.

President Ahidjo warned, however, that all these measures can only be effective if the second and tertiary sectors are given suitable incentives. The level of our domestic needs, the extent of the real demand that will be met as well as our national raw materials reserve, the president said, will give a new boost to industrial development during the fifth plan. And this should be, he added, as a result of the tapping of non-natural resources, the operation of new hydro-electric power plants and the special emphasis laid on the processing of our raw materials (?slowly).

The head of state told the 120 parliamentarians, members of cabinet and the diplomatic corps that, in the final analysis, it is a question of implementing plans which portray our view of the Cameroon of tomorrow; national change ensuring the emergence, influence and development of a society living in harmony, justice and prosperity that history has given with difficult but exalting task to build. [as heard]

CHAD

MOI BEGINS PREPARATIONS FOR PEACEKEEPING FORCE

JN051507 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] Nairobi, 5 Nov (SUNA) -- Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi, chairman of the OAU, has sent an urgent message to President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri in reply to a message conveyed to him last night [as received] by the Sudanese charge d'affaires in Nairobi.

President Moi's message to President Numayri said that he would leave for Nigeria to meet personally with Nigerian President Shehu Shagari to coordinate the departure of the African peacekeeping forces for Chad. President Moi will then proceed to Ndjamena to receive these forces and to appoint a commander. He will supervise their deployment to restore stability and peace throughout Chad.

In his message to President Numayri, President Moi said that some African countries have agreed to participate in the peacekeeping forces in Chad. He appealed to these states to send their contingents as soon as possible. President Moi appealed to President Numayri to urge Hissein Habre to not mount any military operations, at least not at this stage.

President Numayri on Tuesday sent a message to President Moi regarding recent developments in Chad.

Goukouni 'Skeptical'

LD051940 Paris Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] Goukouni Oueddei says he is skeptical about the arrival in Chad of the inter-African peacekeeping force. That does not prevent us from holding talks with the OAU and the countries prepared to take part in it. And, of course, the latter have realized its importance. These statements were made by Goukouni Oueddei when he left the Elysee where he had a 1-hour talk with Francois Mitterrand.

CONGO

GOMA TALKS WITH SAHARAN FOREIGN MINISTER

AB051811 Paris AFP in French 1326 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] Brazzaville, 5 Nov (AFP) -- The Saharan minister of foreign affairs, currently on a visit to Congo, held talks on Wednesday with Congolese Prime Minister Col Louis Sylvain Goma.

The two officials discussed developments in the struggle of the Saharan people, the Congolese Information Agency announced. On this occasion, the Congolese prime minister reaffirmed the unflinching support of the Congolese Government and people for the struggle of the Polisario Front, the agency added.

ZAIRE

OPPOSITION GROUP CLAIMS ARMY KILLED 120 CIVILIANS

AB042149 Paris AFP in French 1759 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] Brussels, 4 Nov (AFP) -- The Council for the Liberation of Congo-Kinshasa, CLC, asserted in Brussels on Wednesday that 120 people were killed by the Zairian Army on 12 October in the eastern Kasai Province in central Zaire.

The CLC pointed out in a communique that the massacre took place in the district of Omunbu. This movement, opposed to the regime of Gen Mobutu Sese Seko, which began last July and is made up of several Zairian opposition parties, quoted from a report by the leader of the Zairian domestic opposition movement.

According to the CLC, the military authorities in Kasai usually distribute military arms and ammunition to the civilian population for hunting elephants for the illegal ivory trade, especially in the Donkole region. Following a hunting session on 6 October, the unfair sharing of ivory between the civilians and soldiers gave rise to some incidents during which a soldier was wounded, the CLC said.

Upon personal orders from President Mobutu, the same source added, reinforcements were sent to Kasai to quell these incidents which, according to the CLC, caused the deaths of 120 persons.

The CLC has appealed to the International Human Rights Federation and to Amnesty International to send a commission of enquiry to Zaire, the communique concluded.

NIGERIA

FOREIGN MINISTRY ANNOUNCES PRC'S HUANG TO VISIT

AB052058 Paris AFP in English 1332 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] Lagos, 5 Nov (AFP) -- Chinese Foreign Minister Huang Hua will make a five-day official visit to Nigeria from November 16 to 20, the Foreign Ministry here said today.

The ministry said in a statement that Mr Huang, who will lead an eight-man delegation, will hold talks with his Nigerian counterpart Ishaya Audu. He is also expected to pay a courtesy call on President Shehu Shagari.

NPN CHAIRMAN SAYS SHAGARI TO SEEK SECOND TERM

AB021203 Lagos NAN in English 1030 GMT 2 Nov 81

[Text] Lagos, 2 Nov (NAN) -- [words indistinct] President Shehu Shagari will run for a second term as presidential candidate of the party in the 1983 elections.

Addressing newsmen at Port Harcourt airport at the week-end, Chief Akinloye said: "We know the president has done very well and when a man has done well, you have to give him another term to shine."

The NPN chairman was on his way to Aba to launch the WEEKLY EAGLE -- a new national newspaper.

He said that in addition to the party's decision to give President Shagari another four-year-term, there was also a constitutional provision for the president to run for a second four-year-term.

Commenting on what his party would do in the event of the realignment of the other four political parties for the 1983 elections, Chief Akinloye said, "incompatibles can never come together. We know for sure that the UPN [United Party of Nigeria] and the NPP [Nigerian People's Party] will never come together so we are not disturbed."

When asked if the NPN would reconsider reviving the broken accord with the NPP in the event of an actual merger of the four parties, Chief Akinloye said. "When the accord was broken I did say that the original invitation which President Shehu Shagari extended to all the parties to join hands with the present administration still stands. If any party is interested in working with us, the door is still open."

Commenting on the issue of pardon for Mr Odumegwu Ojukwu, Chief Akinloye said that as a party, the NPN did not believe that because a man had committed an offence, "he should be exiled from his country for ever."

Chief Akinloye said that the issue of pardon or amnesty for anybody was an executive prerogative of the president as enshrined in the constitution, adding, "with his usual spirit of nation harmony, reconciliation and consolidation, President Shagari will take the final decision on this pardon issue."

Asked if all the seven governors of the party would be renominated for another five year term, Chief Akinloye replied that, as a national chairman, he would speak only on the national level.

UPN Plans to Rig Election

AB031747 Lagos NAN in English 1725 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] Lagos, 3 Nov (NAN) -- The National Party of Nigeria (NPN) has said that it will do everything possible to thwart any plan to rig future elections in the country.

In a statement in Lagos today, the party's national secretary, Alhaji Suleman Takuma, said that the party was alerting the nation "of the Unity Party of Nigeria's (UPN) grand design to rig itself to power" in 1983.

The statement was a reaction to a recent one made by Senator Stephan Akintoye that the UPN would surprise all in 1983.

Alhaji Suleman said that every well-meaning Nigerian should not underestimate the statement in view of the "UPN's penchant for rigging elections".

He said that the UPN was against the introduction of a mechanical voting system in the country because "it completely blocks their rigging chances" in future elections.

Ekwueme Admits Rigging

AB060956 Paris AFP in English 0725 GMT 6 Nov 81

[Text] Lagos, 6 Nov (AFP) -- Nigerian Vice President Alex Ekwueme has admitted that rigging on a massive scale took place during the country's 1979 general elections.

The government-owned newspaper NEW NIGERIAN reported Thursday that Mr Ekwueme said this at a press briefing here on Wednesday while expressing strong support for the proposed use of voting machines in elections.

The massive rigging had been possible, he said, because of human factors and errors of connivance or collusion between political party officials and polling agents. Voting machines could reduce, if not completely eradicate rigging, he said.

Some MP's and party leaders however say it will be much easier to rig with the machines. The House of Representatives has rejected a motion to stage a demonstration of the machines for members.

CLOSER ECONOMIC TIES WITH SOCIALIST STATES URGED

AB061053 Lagos, NAN in English 1040 GMT 6 Nov 81

[Text] Lagos, 6 Nov (NAN) -- The economic plight of developing countries has necessitated the need for closer association with socialist countries as economic partners, a senior research fellow of the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs (NIIA), said yesterday in Lagos.

Presenting a paper at an NIIA-UNCTAD conference on economic cooperation between Nigeria and the socialist countries of Eastern Europe, Dr Francis Ogene said that eight socialist countries in Eastern Europe had about 9 percent of the world's population and produced 15 percent of the world's gross domestic products. He said that socialist countries accounted for over 30 percent of the world's industrial production and had recorded the fastest and highest growth rate.

Giving a breakdown of trade figures within the last decade, he said that the countries had an important market for products of the developing countries but observed that Nigeria's share of this market had been minimal.

Dr Ogene suggested that if Nigeria increased its volume of trade with socialist countries, the present structure of the country's trade relations, in which over 80 percent was directed to the industrialized capitalist countries, would be altered. He said that this would ensure for Nigeria a dependable market for export commodities such as crude oil, cocoa, palm products and coffee, the prices of which had been fluctuating in the capitalist markets.

OIL PRODUCTION, EXPORT FIGURES FOR AUGUST

AB311500 Lagos NAN in English 1455 GMT 31 Oct 81

[Text] Lagos, 31 Oct (NAN) -- Nigeria exported 14,396,926 barrels of crude oil last August out of a total production of 21,903,711 barrels, for the same month, the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), said in a statement released in Lagos yesterday.

These figures represent an average daily production of 706,571 barrels and an average daily export of 464,417 barrels.

The figures show a decline in production and export of 8.25 per cent and 27.44 per cent respectively on the figures for July.

The statement also said that the three domestic refineries were supplied with 5,297,226 barrels of crude oil during the month.

It further said that 864,899 barrels of crude oil was supplied to off-shore refineries under the off-shore refinery agreement.

Revenue for Agriculture

AB031636 Lagos NAN in English 1502 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Excerpt] Lagos, 3 Nov (NAN) -- The federal government plans to use the revenue from oil resources to develop agriculture and industry, the minister of state for industry, Dr Ishmail Igbanim, said today in Lagos.

The minister, who was speaking at the opening of the third Techno 81 Nigeria Trade Exhibition, said that because the federal government planned to develop agriculture, emphasis had been placed on agriculture and agro-based industries.

Dr Igbanim said that efforts were being made to ensure that genuine industrialists benefitted from government incentives, such as the pioneer status, concessionary duty rates, rapid write-downs on capital assets, graduated exise tax reduction and the reimbursement of import duty.

He urged participants to introduce to the Nigerian market, goods that were appropriate to the environment.

ANGOLA

SOVIET ENVOY DISCUSSES USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

AB061204 Luanda Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 6 Nov 81

[Text] The Soviet Union will not use nuclear weapons, whatever the circumstances, against states that oppose their production or acquisition. This was stated yesterday in Luanda by the Soviet ambassador to the People's Republic of Angola, Vadim Loginov, at a press conference he gave on the 64th anniversary of the October Revolution.

After speaking about the changes in the world since the October Revolution, Vadim Loginov also indicated that the revolution has further awakened the revolutionary movement of the working classes of all countries in the world. It has generated the social progress which has transformed our planet. The multilateral and fraternal cooperation between the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of Angola was also one of the important topics discussed by the Soviet ambassador during his news conference in Luanda.

LESOTHO

OFFICIAL DENIES PRESENCE OF SOVIET ADVISERS

EA051840 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] Lesotho's high commissioner to Kenya today called a press conference in Nairobi to deny reports that there are Soviet military advisers in his country. The reports were published by a South African newspaper, the CITIZEN, which claimed that Soviet military advisers arrived in Lesotho over the weekend. He said the reports were incorrect.

MOZAMBIQUE

PRESIDENT LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN AGAINST 'ABUSES'

EA051910 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] President Samora Machel today launched a campaign aimed at ensuring respect for the Constitution and socialist legality. In this connection, he said that there is a need to cleanse the armed forces, the peoples militia, police and security apparatus.

Addressing a rally held in Maputo this afternoon, Samora Machel denounced elements which had infiltrated the defense and security forces and, through acts of arbitrary imprisonment, beatings, torture and other forms of abuse of power, had violated the Constitution, party principles and the laws of the country.

The president said that the objective of the campaign was to consolidate tranquillity in the country and to reinforce our prestige and efficiency and the fighting ability of our forces.

The head of state said that the offensive is possible because the people, through letters and direct complaints to the party, the office of the president and the peoples assemblies, denounced the crimes. In this connection, Samora Machel said that our people know how to distinguish between our forces and the infiltrated elements. The president added that all denounced crimes will be thoroughly investigated andthe people responsible punished. He stressed that, in Mozambique, beatings, corporal punishment and torture are absolutely prohibited.

Reviewing the present situation in Mozambique, Samora Machel said that it reflected the continuation of the values of the capitalist-colonial society and the tribal-feudal society. As an example of this, the president outlined crimes of aggression, torture, arbitrary imprisonment, sexual violations, abuse of housing privileges and theft. The colonial society, as explained by our leader, carried out serious violations which still persist and are evident particularly in those who did not experience the process of the armed struggle for liberation. To correct this situation, Samora Machel pointed out measures and guidelines which must be carried out within the spirit of the general offensive mounted in 1980 in vital sectors of the country's economy.

NAMIBIA

MUDGE ON POSSIBLE WITHDRAWAL FROM GOVERNMENT

LD060514 Johannesburg International Service in English 0400 GMT 6 Nov 81

[Text] The chairman of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance [DTA] and the Ministers Council of South-West Africa-Namibia Mr Dirk Mudge, says the possibility of a resignation by members of the Ministers Council from the interim government of the territory has been raised by several members of the council.

Mr Mudge says such a decision will be taken by the executive as a whole, and not by any single member. The executive will meet on the 16th of this month, and the matter will probably be discussed then.

He was reacting to reports that the Ministers Council could resign because it did not agree with the present dispensation. Should the DTA withdraw from the interim government, the administrator-general will have to take over responsibility for governing the territory. Mr Mudge said the DTA would then be in a position to propagate its policies as a political party and express views without being held responsible for any (?wrangles) in the territory.

SWAPO 'SKEPTICAL' OF CONTACT GROUP EFFORTS

AB051503 Paris AFP in English 1436 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] Salisbury, 5 Nov (AFP) -- The South-West Africa Peoples Organization (SWAPO) is skeptical of the five Western nations current diplomatic efforts to achieve independence for Namibia.

The constitutional principles that the U.S., Britain, France, Canada and West Germany are presenting to African leaders would amount to trying our hands before we are born, SWAPO Secretary-General Moses Garoeb said here.

(?Refering to) the Western powers of the contact group on Namibia as the "gang of five," he criticized their current initiative as merely a tedious series of delays on the road to independence and majority rule.

SWAPO has been fighting against South African control of Namibia for 15 years.

But Mr Garoeb singled out France for praise, saying he appreciated President Francois Mitterrand's indications that it would not be a partner to continued delays on the Namibian issue.

He warned the Western group that SWAPO would not accept any compromises on United Nations Security Council Resolution 435, which calls for a cease-fire and internationally-supervised elections in Namibia.

SWAPO would not accept any compromises unless this was absolutely necessary and is reciprocated by South Africa, Mr Garoeb said.

We already have a catalogue of compromises since the diplomatic process started four years ago, some of them very painful, whereas South Africa has not made any concessions whatsoever, the SWAPO official said.

South Africa's determination to control Namibia remains unchanged and South Africa will continue to block the Western nations efforts, Mr Garoeb said.

SOUTH AFRICA

RADIO COMMENTS ON WESTERN CONTACT GROUP

LD052240 Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The South African foreign minister, Mr R.F. Botha, expresses the view that there is now a real chance of moving on to the next phase of the Western five plan for a settlement in South-West Africa. This hopeful outlook follows the building of mutual trust since President Reagan came to power between the South African Governement and the Western five contact group. However there are those in neighboring black states today who are clearly bent upon disturbing that trust.

On Monday in Salisbury Dr Chester Crocker, America's assistant secretary of state for African affairs, was interviewed by representatives of the ZIMBABWEAN NEWS AGENCY. A report of the interview, distributed in the republic by the South African Press Association, quoted Dr Crocker as having said that he deplored South Africa's intransigence in the negotiations. The U.S. ambassador in Zimbabwe, Mr Robert Keeley, who was present at the interview, has denied that any such statement was made by Dr Crocker.

The ambassador's denial was not distributed to the media in South Africa. On Wednesday, another member of the contact group, Dr (?Hans Weber) of West Germany, was similarly misrepresented. A dispatch originating this time in Lusaka, and distributed in the republic by AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, reported him as having told newsmen in the Zambian capital that South Africa was the main stumbling block in implementing the UN plan for South-West Africa. This report has been denied by the West German Embassy in Pretoria.

These two dispatches, originating respectively in Salisbury and Lusaka, were not only incorrect but malicious. They could not but have been calculated to bring discord between South Africa and the Western five, and to damage the mutual trust which is indispensable for a South-West African settlement.

ZAMBIA

PRESIDENT CALLS FOR SPEEDY SOLUTION IN NAMIBIA

CA051146 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] President Kaunda, currently on tour of the southern province, today described the situation in Namibia as explosive and called for a speedy solution ot the territory's independence dispute. Speaking, before he left for the tour, to the Western contact group of five when they called on him at State House, Dr Kaunda said Zambia was ready to listen to their latest proposals and would assist in any way he can to bring about an acceptable solution. Dr Kaunda, however, warned that [words indistinct] independence for the territory the uncalled-for bloodshed and destruction will continue unabated.

The group's spokesman in Zambia, Dr (Hans Jorgen Weber) of West Germany, said that the Western envoys were here because they want to open the way for a speedy implementation of the United Nations Resolution 435 on Namibia. He said Zambia, as a neighbor of Namibia, has a right to insist on an early and peaceful solution, adding that the contact group (?felt) greatly (?impressed) by Dr Kaunda's [word indistinct].

ZIMBABWE

MINISTER COMMENTS ON COUNTRY'S FOREIGN POLICY

CA041110 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Mangwende, says Zimbabwe will not enter into any military or political commitments with any major power or permit the establishment of any foreign military bases. Comrade Mangwende made the remark when he addressed 10 newly-qualified Zimbabwean diplomats in Salisbury yesterday. He said at the same time this country will not automatically take sides on critical issues of world politics but the country's position will be dictated by its national interests. Comrade Mangwende said Zimbabwe realized that it is sometimes difficult to pursue these objectives, particularly when one has to deal with neighbors such as Pretoria. He said the people in this country are determined to achieve economic independence through organizations such as the South African [as heard] development coordination conference. He also appealed to the diplomats to project the interests of Zimbabwe.